



Daily Report

Latin America

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26 October 1988

Daily Report

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NOTICE TO READERS: For three months beginning in November, material formerly appearing in the JPRS LATIN AMERICA REPORT will be published on a trial basis in the FBIS LATIN AMERICA DAILY REPORT.

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C.A. Presidents Summit Set for Late November

PA2510225388 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
2130 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 25 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—The Central American presidential "summit," which has been postponed twice, will be held in El Salvador "during the last week of November," Claudia Arenas, spokeswoman for the Guatemalan Government, reported today. [passage omitted]

Arenas said that the "summit," which was initially called for by President Cerezo for 7 August in Guatemala and then for 12-13 November in San Salvador, "was postponed at the request of Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte." [passage omitted]

According to Arenas, President Vinicio Cerezo has been in telephone contact with his Central American counterparts, who have told him that "they are willing to attend the meeting on any date."

Acevedo on C.A. Foreign Ministers Meeting

PA2210015888 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
2249 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 20 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Salvadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta said today that the five Central American foreign ministers will hold an "informal" meeting in San Salvador between 14 and 20 November.

Contrary to what was announced 2 days ago, Acevedo said he will meet with his Central American colleagues to "determine when we will form" the Esquipulas II executive commission and set the dates for the presidential summit. [passage omitted]

According to Acevedo, the difficulty in organizing the Esquipulas II executive commission before the OAS General Assembly session takes place has to do "with time problems. The Salvadoran Government cannot efficiently cover three important events simultaneously. In addition, El Salvador wants to wait for the OAS resolution, which could revive prospects for the presidential summit." [passage omitted] The postponement of the summit was announced 1 day after White House envoy Morris Busby visited El Salvador.

Cuba

Malmierca Attends Pontifical Reception

*FL2210150388 Havana Radio Progreso Network
in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Oct 88*

[Text] Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca last night attended the reception given by Apostolic Nuncio Msgr Giulio Einaudi in honor of the 10th anniversary of the pontification of Pope John Paul II. Also present were Jesus Montane, commander in chief Fidel Castro's aide; Jose Raul Viera, first vice foreign minister; and Cuban ecclesiastical authorities.

Justice Minister Leaves for Acapulco Meeting

*FL2210021388 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 0040 GMT 22 Oct 88*

[Text] Juan Escalona Reguera, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister of justice, left for Acapulco, Mexico today. He is heading a Cuban delegation that will participate in the justice ministers conference of Hispanic- and Portuguese-speaking countries.

Amado Guntin, vice minister of justice, and Maria Luisa Arteaga, director of the International Relations Directorate of the Justice Ministry, compose the Cuban delegation. The depenalization of certain criminal behavior and alternate measures for the penalty of loss of freedom will be discussed during the event, which will begin on 24 October.

Alegret, Delegation Visit Dominican Republic

*FL2410192288 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Oct 88*

[By correspondent Eva Luna]

[Text] A large Cuban delegation is visiting the Dominican Republic, where the 450th anniversary of the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo is being marked. Fernando Vecino Alegret, minister of higher education of Cuba, is heading the delegation, comprised of several rectors of Cuban institutes, a dance group from the Center of Higher Studies of Camaguey, and the University of Havana choir.

The delegation visited the Dominican locality of Monte Cristi only a few hours ago. Specifically, it visited the house where national hero Jose Marti and Generalissimo Maximo Gomez signed the Monte Cristi Manifesto in March 1895. The document was of great significance for the continuity of our independence wars.

The Cuban delegation attending the festivities marking the anniversary of the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo, first university in America, will continue to visit places of historic and social interest for several days. It will also meet with other foreign delegations invited here to attend the festivities.

Visa Denied for Group To Perform in Puerto Rico

*FL2510152888 Havana Radio Progreso Network
in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 88*

[Text] The U.S. State Department once again denied the National Folkloric Ballet of Cuba the visa to enter Puerto Rico. The Cuban group was supposed to perform in various centers of Puerto Rico beginning yesterday. Awilda Palau, chairman of the Puerto Rican committee of intellectuals, said: Once more it has been confirmed that U.S. policy is geared toward blocking the normal and natural relations between our peoples.

CEMA Statistics Meeting Ends; Protocol Signed

*FL2210190588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Oct 88*

[Text] The 47th meeting of the CEMA permanent commission on cooperation in statistics has ended with the signing of a protocol. The document includes the different aspects the countries that are members of the socialist economic organization will work on during the upcoming period.

Cuba will serve as the commission's next president.

The delegates to this CEMA meeting paid special attention to the aspects of organization and the collection and processing of data which characterizes the member countries fulfillment of the integral program of scientific-technical development through the year 2000.

The participants in this 3-day meeting also discussed matters related to cooperation in the automated processing of statistical information.

The meeting was held in an atmosphere of friendship and complete understanding.

Computer Display Terminal Export Slated for 1989

*FL2610025688 Havana Television Service
in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Oct 88*

[Text] Cuba will produce almost 15,000 computer display terminals in 1989 and will export them to socialist countries. This was stated by Dr Ruben Lopez, director of the Central Institute for Digital Research, at this morning's inauguration of the third meeting of peripheral equipment experts of the integral council of principal manufacturers.

At the meeting, a brief presentation was given on the recent accomplishments our country has made, mainly in areas related to the substitution of exports and imports in the field of electronics and computer science.

Representatives of all CEMA-member countries are present at this meeting, which will conclude on 28 October with the signing of a final protocol.

Soviets To Aid in Installing Electric Cable

*FL2510222288 Havana Radio Reloj Network
in Spanish 2032 GMT 25 Oct 88*

[Text] More than 570 electric cables were installed in the mountainous areas of the country, mainly in the five eastern provinces, between January and October of this year. The installing of 450 km of electric cables has helped the peasants of the Sierra Maestra. The population of this area now has the benefit of various services and appliances, including televisions, radios, dry cleaners, and improved health services.

A unique role [preceding word in English] will be played by the special brigade that has Soviet specialists. The brigade hopes to finish installing its first 10 km by 6 November as a salute to the 71st anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

To date, more than 1,600 km of electric cable have been installed in the valleys and mountains of the nation's 14 provinces, as well as the Isle of Youth.

URNG Representative Thanks Nation for Solidarity

*FL2610011088 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 0017 GMT 25 Oct 88*

[Interview with URNG representative (Victoria Solarez Ruiz) by Felix Fernando Garrido on the "Exclusivo" program hosted by Daniel Torres—live]

[Garrido] Good evening, Daniel, and hello to the "Exclusivo" audience. I would also like to say hello, as you did, and welcome to our program comrade (Victoria Solarez Ruiz), who is the URNG representative to our country. Good evening, Victoria.

[(Solarez)] Good evening and thank you for letting us into the homes of the Cuban people with a message of solidarity. Also, thank you for letting us tell the people how much we appreciate all the beautiful ceremonies that have been held here in Havana City, as well as Santiago de Cuba, Holguin, and Pinar del Rio.

[Torres] Garrido, if you and Comrade (Solarez) would excuse me for a moment, the reception we are getting from you has a lot of interference, since you are so far away. Let's say we are not receiving you at 100 percent, so let's try to be as brief as possible.

[Garrido] Of course. I just want to say that, as you said earlier, the solidarity with Guatemala conference ended just a few moments ago. Present at the conference were Central Committee members Jesus Montane Oropesa; Jorge Enrique Mendoza, who spoke on behalf of Cuba; and Comrade (Laura Ramirez), who spoke for Guatemala. I now want (Victoria) to give us, briefly, her opinion of this meeting and, of course, her message to our people on behalf of the URNG.

[(Solarez)] We have received a tremendous response from the Cuban people: their message of solidarity, an interest in our struggle, and a desire to support us in any way. We also believe it was very important to have the opportunity, which the conference gave us, to expand the information regarding the reality of our country, development of our struggle, and proposals the URNG has made to solve the armed internal conflict that exists in our country. As for the conference, we appreciate the efforts made by all the Cuban organizations, especially the PCC, that sponsored the activities.

We would also like to thank the Cuban Government, which was very cooperative in letting us hold this meeting, and we would like to mention, in particular, the role played by the Cuban media. Every meeting had television, radio, and press coverage, and we think that this is the way the media shows its solidarity with our struggle.

[Garrido] Thank you very much, (Victoria). Friends, you have just heard (Victoria Solarez Ruiz), URNG representative in our country, moments after the closing of the solidarity with Guatemala conference.

Defense Commission Meets in Havana City

*FL2510042188 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Oct 88*

[Text] Jorge Lezcano, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Havana City Province defense committee, today greeted Division General Sixto Batista Santana, secretary of the PCC Central Committee and director of the national commission that will examine Havana's state of readiness to declare the capital ready for the defense, first stage.

Also present at the meeting, which took place at the provincial general staff, were Pedro Chavez, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the provincial assembly of the people's government; Lieutenant Colonel Lino Carrera, head of the general staff; other members of Havana City's defense council; and high-ranking officials of the FAR and Minint [Ministry of the Interior].

At the meeting, the officials studied a report detailing the actions taken by the city in accordance with the recommendations made by the commission on its last visit to the province in September.

People Sanctioned for Counterrevolutionary Acts

*FL2610023188 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 0007 GMT 26 Oct 88*

[Text] On 20 October, close to a dozen people opposed to the revolution congregated at the park located on Carcel Street between Prado and Martires Avenues next to the monument of our national hero and tried to conduct a

provocative activity that was thwarted by people from the area, the majority of whom were youths who learned that the acts were of a counterrevolutionary nature.

The incident justly caused the people to repel the act and this was immediately and strongly expressed.

Those responsible for the incident were presented to the municipal tribunals and, in plain view, were accused of public disorder for causing a tumult—a criminal act sanctioned in article 200, subparagraph 1, law 62 of the existing penal code. They were subsequently sanctioned.

Armando Araya Garcia was sentenced to deprivation of liberty for 1 year. (Octavio Vladimir Garcia Alderete) was sentenced to 9 months deprivation of liberty. Rita Ester Fleites Fernandez received a sentence of 6 months deprivation of liberty. (Also sanctioned) were Hernandez Castro, David Fidel, (Ornedo Garcia), and Aida Manuela Valdez Santana, who had her 6-month sentence of limited liberty suspended for health reasons.

As of today, these citizens can appeal their sentences within 3 days.

Questions on Criminal Record Cancellation Viewed
FL2510193588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1318 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Interview with Dr (Alma Belcovich Valdes), attorney of the special office of cassation in Havana, by host Juan R. Mendoza, from the "Informing the People" section of "Morning Magazine"—live]

[Text] [Mendoza] What does the concept of criminal record imply currently?

[(Belcovich)] A criminal record consists of those crimes recorded in the central convictions registry. In addition, we can note that they include those sentences imposed by people's tribunals and military tribunals when they have tried non-military crimes as long as they have imposed sanctions of less than 200 quotas or a reprimand. Included as well are sentences imposed by military tribunals when they have tried non-military crimes as long as this is included or noted in the sentence. Finally, it also includes sentences imposed on Cuban citizens who have been tried by foreign tribunals under the conditions of the regulations. This is what a criminal record consists of.

It is very important to note that when we speak of quotas they cannot be less than 50 centavos or more than 20 pesos. That is, a person can be sentenced to pay a fine of 200 pesos but this may not be out of keeping with quotas. Quotas are different. Sometimes people interpret them incorrectly.

[Mendoza] It does not correspond with the money?

[(Belcovich)] It does not correspond with the money.

[Mendoza] Now that this preliminary matter has been cleared up, let's deal with the criminal record issue. How can previous crimes that have already been registered be canceled?

[(Belcovich)] Well, the criminal record can be canceled in various ways. One is through the government's initiative and the other one is at the request of the interested party.

The ones done at the government's initiative or official ones take place simply when the central convictions registry somehow learns that certain circumstances exist. Among them are the death of the convicted person and cases wherein the person is over 70 years of age and is not serving a sentence. We could also point out the case in which a revision process or a judicial inspection takes place and, logically, the person is found not guilty.

Also, initiative can be taken if approximately more than 10 years has passed from the time the sentence was served. Of course, this does not apply to repeat offenders. Those who have been sentenced for crimes against state security cannot benefit from this. There are also those cases in which a person is granted amnesty and those in which the individual is pardoned, as long as the document specifically notes that the person does not have a previous criminal record. These are some cases, among others. These are several situations in which criminal records can be canceled through the government's initiative.

Cases involving cancellation of the criminal record at the initiative of the interested party would include cases in which a person has served the time the law requires—according to the nature and threat of the crime, the person should have served a sentence in line with a scale existing in the Penal Code. This involves a person who has served a sentence, behaved in accordance with the social norms, and had an exemplary or honest attitude toward work. In addition, if a person was convicted of a civil offense, he should have served the civil sentence in its entirety or be serving it at the time.

[Mendoza] Let's clarify the terms. You were referring to the official ones. The official ones are those in which the registry officials—because they have learned about these situations which you explained very clearly—directly initiate the cancellation.

[(Belcovich)] Exactly.

[Mendoza] You refer to the case of the interested party when the individual requests the cancellation of the criminal record if he meets the requirements. Is this correct?

[(Belcovich)] But there is an exception.

[Mendoza] I wanted to ask you about this because we know about the exception. It would be good if you referred to the exception the Penal Code includes.

[(Belcovich)] The code includes an exception. When a convicted person has met all the requirements except the time mandated by law, has observed an exemplary behavior toward work after the sentence has been served, and maintained and exhibited behavior in line with the norms of social coexistence, logically the minister permanently cancels the criminal record without the person involved having to meet the time required by law.

This time, the requirement goes from 10 years, for the more serious sentences, down to 1 year, for the less serious ones.

[Mendoza] That's clear. What Dr Alma was referring to is interesting because the law establishes in a specific article the time that has to expire after the sentence has been served. It is very specific, for 1 year and so for. It would be very difficult to refer to it in this program because it would take a lot of time.

Doctor, let me ask you one last thing regarding this. This criminal record, once it is canceled—whether at the initiative of the government or of the interested party—is it totally erased? Does the previous criminal record come up again if the person has a problem later or commits a crime? The public is very interested in this. What can you tell us about it?

[(Belcovich)] Thanks to the creation of the current Penal Code reform, this is what happens. At the same time the criminal record is canceled through the means we have applied, it is permanently canceled. That is, it does not show up later. The most important thing about this situation is the following: Say a worker became involved 1 day in a criminal act and was convicted. As time went by, he demonstrated that he was an honest and decent man, yet he carried this criminal record indefinitely. Logically, this became an uneraseable mark that did not make him happy. Fortunately, with the current Penal Code, the criminal record, once it is canceled, will never show up again. This is very important, especially for those kinds of workers we have talked about.

[Mendoza] Thank you very much. I believe Dr Alma's explanation is very interesting because of its social impact.

We wanted to refer to a final matter. We know that with the modifications, the new sentences introduced in our Penal Code include correctional work with and without confinement. With this type of sentence, once the sentence is served, the criminal record is also canceled. This is something very new. We would like for you to refer to this.

[(Belcovich)] Yes, of course. It was the winds of renovation that brought the reformed Penal Code into effect on 30 April 1988. Correctional work with and without

confinement is the new method established by the current Penal Code. In addition to these two we have the limitation of freedom. These convictions are auxiliary to the loss of freedom. After they are served they do not leave a criminal record. This is a very new thing, and, as we said, it has brought winds of reform to the current sentencing policy. That is, if a person has been sentenced in this way—limitation of freedom, correctional work with or without confinement—once the sentence is served it does not leave a criminal record.

[Mendoza] That is, once the sentence is served the criminal record is wiped out.

[(Belcovich)] It is completely and permanently wiped out.

[Mendoza] This is a very new and interesting feature of our legislation. We thank Dr (Alma Belcovich Valdes) for her presence. We hope she can return because of the interesting things she has said.

October Port Situation Improving *FL2410233588 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2044 GMT 24 Oct 88*

[Text] Only 80,000 tons of grain have presently accumulated in the nation's ports. However, more arrivals have created the need for increased job efficiency in unloading.

The amount of grain on the docks, as of October, is the lowest the nation has had in recent years, and the situation is so favorable that docks are waiting for ships with grain cargos.

Another event worth mentioning that occurred in October is the unloading of lumber from five cargo ships. Thanks to the efforts of the port authorities, department of transportation, and internal economy, this job has been done in almost half the expected time. However, more merchandise containers have been unloaded than moved.

Havana's port has the highest amount of merchandise, but it is still less than half full, and with the support of the transportation department, the amount of merchandise moved can be limitless.

As of October, more than 493,000 tons of merchandise have been unloaded in the nation's ports. This figure has been increased by new arrivals. The organization [not further identified] has acknowledged that the port-transport-internal economy network has excelled, with support from other organizations, in the unloading of 81,000 tons. To increase this month's positive results in Havana's ports, an increased effort is needed in moving containers and equipment, such as cars, cranes, tractors, and chassis. Railroad cars have moved some 381 tons, which is encouraging.

To step up the work that has been done, it is essential to push forward the rotation carried out by the transportation department 7 days a week and for the internal economy warehouses to receive shipments night and day.

'Severe Delays' Found in Sugarcane Planting

FL2610035588 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 0016 GMT 26 Oct 88

[Commentary by Marcos Llanos on the "Exclusivo" program—live]

[Text] In agriculture nobody gets results from one day to the next, especially in sugarcane agriculture, where you sow today and then reap in 15 or 18 months.

This year, according to available information, there was a good spring planting. The same thing cannot be said about the current winter planting period which is from July to December. Some 11,000 caballerias were supposed to have been planted for the July-October period, but only 7,000 have been planted, which is about two-thirds of the established goal.

Some provinces, such as Pinar del Rio and Matanzas, have severe delays and only Santiago de Cuba has completed its planting. Provinces such as Las Tunas, Villa Clara, Havana, and Camaguey, which are important to the nation's sugar production, have significant delays, delays that will carry into the months of November and December.

The available information says excess moisture in the soil, a result of the abundance of rain in the past few months, is the cause for not being able to prepare the fields for planting. Where a tractor cannot work because of too much moisture, a plow can do the job.

We need a very large harvest, not just next year, but also in 1990. Part of the 1990 harvest is being planted this season; we must meet the schedules. After years of drought, we must not complain about the rain. On the contrary, we must get as much as possible out of it.

Low Yields in Lobster Harvest Reported

FL2210170488 Havana Radio Reloj Network
in Spanish 1522 GMT 22 Oct 88

[Text] Up through the first half of October, the workers of the Camilo Cienfuegos industrial fishing combine have caught 1,774 tons of lobster in the Havana municipality of Batabano. Emilio Lugo Hernandez, assistant director of that organization, said that this is only 88 percent of the expected catch and that the low yield is due to the low amount of crustaceans.

He added that, for the same reason, last June they did not harvest the expected amount when the fishing ban on that marine species was lifted. From an expected 640 tons they only caught 510 tons.

Lugo Hernandez said that between 1981 and 1987 the industrial fishing combine of Batabano caught more than 20,000 tons of lobster, an important contribution to the national economy.

Bahamas

Free National Movement Members Settle Differences

FL2510210788 Bridgetown CANA in English
1822 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, Oct 25, CANA—Leaders of the official opposition in the Bahamian parliament, the Free National Movement (FNM), have reported reaching an "amicable agreement" on differences that led to the resignation of Treasurer Tennyson Wells, according to the GUARDIAN newspaper.

The GUARDIAN quoted an FNM spokesman as saying that during the party's October 21-22 meeting, "grievances were aired, fears and frustrations were articulated," but in the end the gathering pledged "unwavering support" for party leader Cecil Wallace Whitfield.

Wallace Whitfield had been accused by some party members of not pulling his weight.

A week ago, Wells resigned the post he had held for just 3 months and the TRIBUNE newspaper claimed this was because of Wallace Whitfield's complaints that he was "saddled with a deputy and a treasurer he did not want." Wallace Whitfield, the TRIBUNE said, was unwilling to work with the two men.

Deputy party leader is Orville Turnquest. [sentence as received]

Opposition MP's turned up in full force at Monday's new session of parliament and presented a united front.

Dominica

President Seignoret To Serve Second Term

FL2510154388 Bridgetown CANA in English
1503 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Oct 25, CANA—Sir Clarence Seignoret will serve a second five-year term as president of Dominica, commencing December 21, 1988, it has been officially announced here.

When Dominica's House of Assembly convened Monday, the speaker, Mrs Marie Davis Pierre, read the contents of two letters, one signed by Prime Minister Eugenia Charles and opposition leader Michael Douglas jointly nominating Sir Clarence and the other from the president himself accepting the nomination. There were no other candidates.

Attorney General Brian Alleyne, in the absence of Prime Minister Charles, extended government's congratulations, saying that Sir Clarence had shown a deep interest in things national. He had been quite productive in promoting citizenship and national symbols and the government side had no difficulty in nominating him, Alleyne said.

Douglas, in congratulating Sir Clarence, said his Dominica Labour Party (DLP) Executive had no difficulty in agreeing to a second term of office for the president. Sir Clarence, he said, had "steered a very dignified course in his first term, and we had no difficulty in endorsing him for a second term."

Haiti

CIA Actions, Army Corruption Alleged

FL2510144288 Port-au-Prince LE MATIN in French
No 226.504, 20 Oct 88 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed article: "Is It Possible, After 7 February '86? Troubling Revelations by the Political Party 'F.C.P.L.N.'"]

[Text] An investigation by the GQG [Grand Quartier General, Haitian Armed Forces General Headquarters] is indispensable.

The Charlemagne Peralte National Liberation Front [FCPLN], always close to the heart of national and popular demands, feels it is the front's duty to take stock of a matter the front feels is of capital importance to the nation's life and the Haitian people.

The FCPLN has just taken formal notice of the communique from the Information Service of the U.S. Embassy on the agreement between the Haitian and U.S. Governments that has been signed. This agreement is on the means for joint action that has been set up to combat drug trafficking. The FCPLN feels it should have been up to the head of the Haitian Government to inform the nation, and that the full text of this agreement should have been published.

Furthermore, according to information gathered by our organization, in this agreement, there is a matter of a memorandum of understanding. This memorandum has reportedly been submitted to the Haitian Government by the U.S. Embassy. In this memorandum, the the Haitian Government reportedly allows, among other things, CIA and DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) intelligence agents carrying several identification documents to enter Haiti to conduct spy missions of all kinds on Haitian territory.

In this connection, the front's information office has identified a foreigner working for the CIA and the DEA. This person, a very attractive 25-year-old female, has

three (3) passports: American, Honduran, and Brazilian. Maria De Jesus—allegedly her name—is part of Hit Team K-5 (Equipe de frappe K-5).

A copy of the memorandum in question had been sent to the different Haitian Government services, among these, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the administration of military aviation, ("the administration of) the Ministry of Interior and [National] Defense, etc. The memorandum has been translated into French by an Army lieutenant colonel and approved by the Haitian Government in exchange for \$200,000 per fiscal year. Unfortunately, the public treasury never laid eyes on this money, for it had been deposited into the foreign bank account of a high-ranking Haitian Army officer.

Next, the FCPLN takes this opportunity to point out that the Port-au-Prince military aviation administration sold two foreign airplanes that landed illegally in Haitian territory; these aircraft were confiscated by the Haitian Government within the framework of illicit drug trafficking.

The sale of these two planes (a Commander 1000 and a Cessna 303) permitted another high-ranking Army officer to pocket a \$320,000 commission. Once the planes were confiscated by the National Security Service, they became the property of the public treasury. It should have fallen to the tax office to adjudge them after bids had been submitted.

Thus, high-ranking Army and public administration officials are enriching themselves by means of these shamefully corrupt practices, while the Haitian people wallow in the most degrading, inhuman, abject poverty.

We must also recall, for the edification of the Haitian Government and people, that this same kind of agreement was signed between the U.S. and Jamaican Governments. However, the Jamaican Government received several million dollars from the United States.

Therefore, is it not extremely upsetting to compare the way the United States treats other countries with the way it treats Haiti?

Haiti gets only crumbs for allowing the United States to encroach on our national sovereignty and our dignity as a people.

Yesterday, under Jean-Claude Duvalier, it was the abominable agreement giving the U.S. Navy the right to intercept, in Haitian and international waters, Haitian vessels en route to foreign ports. Today, it is the de facto military government's acceptance of foreign intelligence agents entering Haiti to spy on Haitians living here.

High-ranking Haitian officers, who are far from clean themselves, denounce other high-ranking officers to the U.S. Government.

Who knows? Perhaps tomorrow it will be an agreement regarding Mole Saint Nicolas!

Port-au-Prince, 19 October 1988

[Signed] Gilles M. Hendrick, secretary general of the FCPLN

Police Break Up Protest; Several Injured
FL2510130388 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] Haitian police broke up a protest yesterday against the transfer of a priest who has opposed the military government. Protests have been going on for 3 weeks over the transfer of Reverend Jean Bertrand Aristide. Two radio stations report that the police used billy clubs to break up yesterday's protests and left several people injured.

Jamaica

Parties Disagree on Relief Distribution
FL2510132388 Bridgetown CANA in English 2137 GMT 24 Oct 88

[By Paget de Freitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 24, CANA—Jamaica's ruling and opposition political parties, jockeying for advantage ahead of general elections, are arguing over administration of disaster relief following the island's battering by Hurricane Gilbert in September. And at times the quarrel has taken on, in Jamaican parlance, the tone of a stand-pipe "cass cass" or a marketplace "tracing match".

Earlier in the month, opposition leader Michael Manley protested to Washington that Prime Minister Edward Seaga was breaching congressional stipulations by handling U.S. hurricane aid in manner to give advantage to the governing Jamaica Labour Party (JLP).

In sharp rebuke, Seaga charged that Manley, like a hurt child, had gone running to complain to "bucky massa"—a Jamaican term for white plantation owners and overseers who held sway during colonial times. On Sunday, Seaga fired another salvo.

"All they have done is to spread nasty rumours abroad to say that we are playing politics (with hurricane aid)," Seaga told supporters in the northeastern parish of St Mary.

The prime minister's latest attack was triggered by the PNP's [People's National Party] rejection of a J12 million dollar (1 LCA dol; 18 cents U.S.) Programme the government announced to create 20,000 temporary jobs for rural persons and urban poor who have had their incomes cut because of the hurricane.

Under the programme, 6 million dollars will be spent on programmes administered by parliamentarians. The rest of the money will be spent by local government councillors.

Seaga said he had fashioned the scheme in this manner to be as even-handed as possible, for whereas there is no opposition member in the parliament, most of the 200 local government councillors were members of the PNP, which controls 12 of the 13 local government bodies. But the PNP, saying that the scheme should not be politicised, is arguing for the work programmes to be run by local government councils themselves rather than individual councillors.

The money to be spent by parliamentarians, the opposition party says, should be on programmes developed by the two parties and recognised non-partisan community organisations.

Not only were members of parliament being given this new money to spend, the PNP has charged, but they already had an annual allocation of half million dollars each to spend on minor projects in their constituencies. In any event, the PNP says, work should not be handed out by politicians, but the prospective employees identified through the Labour Ministry "or other appropriate agencies".

The accusations and counter-charges over how both local and foreign aid was being handled began soon after Gilbert slammed into Jamaica on September 12 with devastating effect.

At the root of the issue is the opposition suspicion that the government is using disaster relief to portray itself as the people's benefactor after the ravages of hurricane. That was what Manley charged when Seaga and a group of ministers went to the eastern parish of St Thomas October 12 to personally hand out vouchers to purchase building materials supplied by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

"For a political leader to do it personally is absolutely without excuse," Manley told reporters.

It is clear tha Seaga has benefitted politically from the storm and now has his best chance of an unprecedented third term as prime minister. The governing JLP has been playing up the fact that Seaga has been able to raise U.S.500 million dollars from donor governments and international agencies for post-hurricane rebuilding.

An opinion poll taken shortly after the hurricane, indicated that the JLP had cut sharply into a large PNP lead and was in striking distance of the opposition party. Apparently, Jamaicans were having second thoughts about voting the PNP into office in elections that must be held by next March—position apparently based largely on the view that Seaga was more capable than PNP leader Manley of mobilising the kind of support required for reconstruction.

The latest opinion survey by respected pollster Dr Carl Stone gave the opposition a 51 per cent standing as compared with 49 per cent for Seaga's JLP—compared with 56.3 per cent and 32.6 per cent respectively two days before the hurricane.

According to Seaga, the PNP had no genuine grouses, but was more concerned with blocking government's relief programme. "They know that by my being able to show that we can manage this crisis in an effective way, that people will recognise that if it is management you need, you must turn to this government," Seaga said Sunday. But Seaga, apparently concerned that continuing perception of unfair or partisan handling of relief will harm his party, has been attempting to distance parties from the distribution process.

The government continues to ignore a PNP call for a national committee, made up of members of both parties, government agencies sectoral interests and private voluntary relief agencies that would also consider reconstruction needs. A similar committee was established here after floods in 1979. However, Seaga has handed over relief distribution to voluntary agencies and is moving towards a scheme of food stamps to be exchanged for supplies. Lists for the stamps are to be vetted by both parties.

Additionally, the government is hiring the international accounting firm Price Waterhouse to audit all aid, local and foreign, to Jamaica.

Foreign governments and big aid agencies already require their own audits for aid to Jamaica and other countries. "This could be the most audited disaster in history," said a spokesman at the U.S. Embassy here.

Opposition Continues To Call for Early Elections
FL2510220088 Bridgetown CANA in English
2141 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 25, CANA—Michael Manley has resumed his call for an early general election here following a recent poll suggesting that his People's National Party (PNP) had slipped sharply in public support in favour of Prime Minister Edward Seaga's Jamaica Labour Party (JLP).

Manley, speaking Monday night at a session of the mock parliament the PNP has kept since boycotting the last general elections (1983), said his party had refrained from the election issue in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Gilbert while relief work was in progress.

"But now principle and national interest have combined to demand that elections be held soon, so that the people can decide who they want to lead them through the enormous task of rebuilding Jamaica," Manley said.

Gilbert left hundreds of millions of dollars in damage to Jamaica, but apparently also improved the political fortunes of Prime Minister Seaga, who is seeking an unprecedented third consecutive term in office. Seaga must call an election by next April 10.

A survey by respected pollster, Carl Stone, completed only days before Gilbert, gave the PNP a 49 per cent standing among voters against 36 per cent for Seaga's JLP, with 15 per cent uninterested. In an election, based on that poll, the PNP would get 57.6 per cent of the votes and the JLP 42.4 per cent.

In another poll begun 10 days after the hurricane, the PNP's support in a two-party situation, had slipped to 51 per cent, while the JLP's had increased to 49 per cent.

Stone said that major cause for the swing was a perception, particularly among middle class voters, that Seaga would be better able to rebuild Jamaica, based on his capacity to raise money from external sources.

"It is going to be a battle royal between the PNP's self-reliance perspective and the JLP's foreign aid capability, which is linked directly to the accelerated dependency syndrome unleashed by Gilbert's devastation," Stone said.

Manley 2 weeks ago told reporters that he expected the polls "to begin to move back in our favour...within a few weeks," as the original agenda of concerns that caused his party to maintain a 5-year lead over the JLP re-assert itself.

St Christopher and Nevis

Electoral Commission Chairman Appointed
FL2510205488 Bridgetown CANA in English
2139 GMT 24 Oct 88

[Text] St Kitts, Oct 24, CANA—Attorney-at-law Charles Wilkin has been appointed chairman of the Electoral Commission here which oversees elections in this former British Caribbean colony, according to an announcement from Government House.

Wilkin replaces Frederick Kelsick who died earlier this year, after serving in the position for just over a year.

The commission was established a year after independence, in 1983, and in addition to supervising elections, also has charge over voter registration. The commission is made up of three members, including the chairman who is appointed by the governor general. One member is nominated by government and the other by the parliamentary opposition.

Iran's Larijani Discusses Trade, Ties

LD2510120988 Tehran IRNA in English 1144 GMT
25 Oct 88

[Text] Tehran, Oct 25, IRNA—Mexican acting foreign minister Monday lauded progress and success of Iranian nation in many political, cultural and economic fields despite involvement in a full-scale war. He made the remark in a meeting with Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Europe and America Mohammad Javad Larijani currently visiting Mexico City heading a political delegation.

The acting foreign minister expressed sorrow that despite existence of ample grounds, expansion of Tehran-Mexico City ties have not been paid much attention.

He said Mexico's accredited ambassador will be dispatched to Iran soon and this would be a preface for reopening the Mexican Embassy here.

Larijani talked in detail about expansion of Tehran-Mexico City ties and added joint cooperation in political, cultural, economic and international issues would be based on mutual respect and interests.

He reminded Iran could actively cooperate with Mexico in agriculture, agricultural industries, oil industry, oil policy, heavy industries, cultural issues as well as scientific and technological exchanges.

He stressed the necessity of joint ventures especially at the post-war reconstruction era.

Larijani arrived in Mexico City on October 21 on the third leg of his four-nation tour. He is to visit Cuba on the last leg of his tour which also took him to Greece and West Germany.

Cuban Justice Minister on Drug Trafficking

PA2510235888 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision
Television in Spanish 1955 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Report by Manuel Almendra in Acapulco]

[Text] During the 2d day of the meeting of 20 justice ministers from Latin America, Spain, and Portugal being held in Acapulco, Cuban Justice Minister Juan Escalona Reguera said the fight against drug trafficking should not be an excuse for violating the sovereignty of the nations involved in this worldwide social cancer. The Cuban justice minister described drug trafficking as genocide and as worse than hunger and nuclear weapons:

[Begin recording] Nuclear missiles have begun to be destroyed. In short, we have begun to move to an apparently more rational policy. [end recording]

Dr Olga Islas de Gonzalez Mariscal participated on behalf of the Mexican delegation. In her report, she stressed that the full weight of the law should fall on those guilty of antisocial behavior, specifically those who cause economic harm to the state or the people. She said embezzlers, stock exchange speculators, those who illegally take foreign exchange out of countries with foreign debts, and merchants who unscrupulously increase prices should be singled out for punishment.

Income Increases Under Current Government

PA2510152288 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish
21 Oct 88 p 3

[Report by Young Coral]

[Summary] Gilberto Garcia Camberos, assistant secretary of income at the Finance Secretariat, has disclosed that under the current government, federal income has been equivalent to an average of 17.3 percent of the Gross National Product (GNP), which is an improvement of 14.5 percent over the previous 6-year period. Garcia Camberos said this increase can basically be explained by the growth of oil income, the modification of Pemex's budget starting in 1983, and this administration's in-depth revision of Pemex prices. The Pemex official said the nonpetroleum products' contribution to the GNP has declined slightly because of inflation and the reduction of value added taxes (VAT). He said this positive trend has been confirmed in 1988, because during the January - August period, income tax collection was 21.4 percent greater than during the same period last year, and the VAT has maintained a steady 6-percent growth rate.

Semip: Nation Leads World in Silver Production

PA2510215888 Mexico City THE NEWS in English
24 Oct 88 p 38

[Summary] The Secretariat of Energy, Mines, and Parastate Industries (Semip) issued a press release Sunday that stated that Mexico's mineral and mineral by-product exports have increased by 38 percent between 1982 and 1987, generating \$1.206 billion in foreign exchange last year. The press release touted Mexico as the world's number one silver, fluoride, and sodium sulphate producer, adding that within the 5 - year period, silver production increased 56 percent; gold, 31 percent; sulphur, 27 percent; lead, 21 percent; zinc, 16 percent; and fluoride, 15 percent. The mining and metalurgy work force increased by 15,000 during the same period.

Belize

Nicaraguan Seamen Apply for Political Asylum

FL2510154088 Bridgetown CANA in English
1529 GMT 29 Oct 88

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, Oct 25, CANA—Two Nicaraguan seamen Jose Lazaro Gonzalo and Carlos Anastacio Garcia have applied for political asylum in Belize. Official sources here said.

Their names were not given [as received], but the sources said the men are crew members of a Nicaraguan-registered shrimp vessel currently in the Belize City Harbour. The rusty steel hull shrimper is from the Nicaraguan Caribbean coastal area of Bluefields, the sources said.

Costa Rica

Arias on Meeting With Salvadoran Rebel Leaders

PA2510182588 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish
1200 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] Salvadoran guerrilla leaders have met with President Oscar Arias Sanchez in another effort to reach accords leading to a resumption of talks with the government of Jose Napoleon Duarte. Commanders Leonel Gonzalez of the People's Liberation Forces, Joaquin Villalobos of the People's Revolutionary Army, Ana Guadalupe Martinez, and Salvador Samayoa met with Arias for more than 3 hours.

President Arias said that in his meeting with the guerrilla leaders he stressed the importance of reestablishing the dialogue and ending the war, which will yield no winners or losers but losers and damages for all.

It is necessary to overcome many obstacles along the way, because achieving peace and dialogue does not depend on one of the sides alone, President Arias said. He added that he spoke to the guerrilla leaders about the importance and urgency of reestablishing the dialogue, because only a dialogue will end the war someday.

Arias said he will contact Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte to inform him that this meeting took place and brief him on the topics discussed.

The Salvadoran guerrilla leaders said they reject the electoral process currently under way in their country because previous ones achieved nothing. Commanders Leonel Gonzalez and Joaquin Villalobos believe the guerrillas are growing because they enjoy popular support and because the schemes of U.S. aid for El Salvador are worn out. They also believe the people realize that the right wing and the Army are fighting. The people are now supporting the guerrillas more strongly because the guerrillas now have urban actions and movements, they said.

The Salvadoran guerrilla leaders said they are unwilling to lay down their weapons to join their country's institutional life, which is a condition of President Jose Napoleon Duarte.

As for their tour in several Latin American countries, they said they wish to express their hope the peace process will make headway because they believe the dialogue is the path to achieving a solution to the conflict. They have visited Argentina, Uruguay, Peru, and Costa Rica. From here, they will head for Ecuador to meet with President Rodrigo [Borja] to explain this position.

On U.S. as Model, Peru

PM2510160688 Madrid ABC in Spanish
16 Oct 88 pp 27-29

[Interview with President Oscar Arias by Faustino Alvarez—date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Alvarez] Does the United States constitute a political model for Costa Rica?

[Arias] We share the same ideals but set ourselves different paths for achieving them. There are major points of contact between our paths, but there are also some differences. We are peoples who aspire to maintain and strengthen an honest and truly free system of periodic government elections. We are peoples with a tradition of human rights observance who believe that the benefits of culture, economic development, and progress must be shared by the majority. We are also peoples who believe in pluralism and the competence of the individual, but, of course, Costa Rica is a small country with limited resources and a great desire for overall progress.

[Alvarez] What is your opinion of the U.S. role with regard to peace in Central America?

[Arias] We cannot fail to recognize that the United States is one of the world's most consolidated democracies. The projection of these values is part of the action of all its governments. Temporary situations or details cannot undermine its history or what it should be now, including the essential goal of projecting democracy, irrespective of errors or political factors stemming from changing situations. [passage omitted]

[Alvarez] Do you believe that East-West tension is harmful to Central America?

[Arias] We have repeatedly urged the leaders of both blocs to heed our appeals for support in the task of establishing peace. We believe that Europe and the United States, which lead the Western bloc, have respected and to some extent acknowledged our anxieties. Unfortunately, however, the same has not occurred with the USSR, whose responses have been inflexible. Until the accords between the blocs include Central America as a specific item on their agendas, we know

that most of the problem will endure. Nevertheless nothing and nobody will alter Costa Rica's belief that only through dialogue and analysis will it be possible to advance toward permanent solutions.

[Alvarez] Could restructuring and the replacement of President Reagan be positive factors for your country?

[Arias] Costa Rica occupies a privileged position with respect to any U.S. government and one of equal and mutual respect toward the USSR. Greater political flexibility on the latter power's part, however, must have a favorable impact on its relations with the rest of the world. [passage omitted]

[Alvarez] Do you believe that the policy of Peru's President Alan Garcia signifies the dashing of many hopes?

[Arias] Peru's situation is one of the most complex in South America. Many years of dictatorship and a great imbalance in the distribution of wealth did not create a sufficiently solid base for a democratic government. Alan Garcia's difficulties have indeed dashed many hopes, irrespective of the complex causes of the difficulties. However, attention should be paid not so much to the failures as to the danger of Peru's regressing in its democratic process.

[Alvarez] Is the word "Chile" included in your peace agenda?

[Arias] The priorities in Costa Rica's peace agenda are all the countries of the continent still unable to accede to complete democracy. Because of our historical ties with the Chilean people we hope for the prompt restoration of a democracy which they should never have lost and which, once restored, they must succeed in preserving. This is part of the historical responsibility of all Chileans, without exception. [passage omitted]

Madrigal Blames Nicaragua for Summit Delay
PA2510193088 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish
19 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto has said there are many obstacles preventing a Central American presidential summit. Among those obstacles he specifically mentioned the difficulties regarding the Nicaraguan Government's position concerning the Nandaime prisoners, the Nicaraguan-Honduran border conflict, and the delays the Nicaraguans have imposed on the Central American peace process.

Madrigal Nieto said no definite date has been set for a Central American presidential summit, which will depend on a previous formal working session among the five Central American foreign ministers to prepare the agenda for the presidential summit.

On another subject, Madrigal Nieto stressed the importance of creating a Costa Rican-Panamanian joint commission to prevent new incidents at the common border. Madrigal said, "protesting is not the best thing to do; finding a solution to the conflict is." He added that a formal note will be sent to the Panamanian Government protesting a military incursion by Panamanian soldiers in our territory.

During his first news conference after he returned from his trip to the United Nations, where he participated in the 43d UN General Assembly, Madrigal Nieto reiterated his criticisms of the Nicaraguan Government and maintained there will be no favorable conditions for holding a Central American presidential summit as long as the people arrested in Nandaime are not released.

Madrigal Nieto also said Nicaragua's position in the world has deteriorated. In that regard, he noted Greece and the EEC have censored Nicaragua, and he highlighted the fact that the nonaligned countries did not elect a Nicaraguan representative as the organization's president.

Madrigal Nieto stressed there have been many impediments to the awaited Central American presidential summit, among which he gave particular importance to the dispute between Honduras and Nicaragua at the International Court of Justice [ICJ].

The Costa Rican foreign minister said Nicaragua has refused to withdraw the charges it filed against Honduras, which hampers the peace process in the area. He added that the verification mechanism promoted by Costa Rica with the participation of the FRG, Spain, and Canada in the Honduran-Nicaraguan conflict would be far more convenient for Nicaragua than a prolonged lawsuit at the ICJ.

Presidential Hopefuls View Ties With Nicaragua

PA2210151688 [Editorial Report] San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish on 16 October carries a full-page report on page 3 containing the views of five Costa Rican presidential candidates on the steps that should be taken to coexist with a Marxist-Leninist regime such as Nicaragua. All five candidates belong to either the National Liberation Party, PLN, or the United Social Christian Party, PUSC.

Miguel Angel Rodriguez Echeverria, PUSC presidential hopeful, believes it is necessary to form an international alliance with the superpower that can help Costa Rica deal with totalitarian, Marxist movements: the United States. Rodriguez gives examples of successful measures taken by the FRG, ROK, and Taiwan to coexist with Marxist governments. Rodriguez discusses "the need to conduct an internal social and economic development process that can help citizens appreciate the advantages of living in a democratic country." He adds that there is a need for our country to not be involved in regional

conflicts. Finally, he says, "it is necessary to keep the public aware of problems caused by Marxist regimes such as a lack of freedom, human rights violations, repression, and economic disadvantages."

Dr Carlos Manuel Castillo Morales, PLN candidate, calls for a permanent political and diplomatic initiative with democratic countries to seek their support. He adds: "We must strictly comply with the decision to not allow our territory to be used to attack the Nicaraguan regime." He says: "We must promote the development of the border region and the strengthening of the Civil Guard and Rural Guard, not to create an army, but to defend our sovereignty." Finally, he calls for a permanent dialogue with the Nicaraguan Government. "I believe we must always talk with our neighbor," he notes.

PLN candidate Rolando Araya Monge says he believes the best protection against a Marxist-Leninist regime is to always look out for the people's welfare and economic development. Araya says he has faith in the Nicaraguan people and their democratic ideals. "Sooner or later, Nicaraguans will have democracy," he notes. "A happy people are stronger than all armies in stopping communism," he says.

PUSC leader Jose Hine Garcia believes the best solution to avoid problems with the Marxist Nicaraguan Government is to develop the border areas with that country. He says: "We must not allow Nicaragua, especially its ideology, to intervene in Costa Rica's internal affairs." He adds that he will not promote Costa Rica's intervention in that country, either. "This does not mean we will not support the people in recovering their sacred rights," he says.

Finally, PUSC leader Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier says: "Considering the current state of the situation with Nicaragua, Costa Rica should prepare itself by strengthening its educational programs." He adds: "We are facing an undeniable political reality, and I believe Costa Ricans should learn to coexist with that regime, because it is not up to us to change a situation that exclusively pertains to the Nicaraguan people. We have always supported the principle of nonintervention and we will respect it." He adds: "We must assume the responsibility of leading Costa Rica on the path of peace, social justice, and freedom."

Movement Warns of Cuban 'Infiltration'

PA2610042788 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish
18 Oct 88 p 3-A

[Paid advertisement of the Free Costa Rica Movement: "Cuban Infiltration Danger to Security!"]

[Text] Amid charges that the Cuban dictatorship has a plan to infiltrate our country, some are claiming that implementation of the first stage of this infiltration plan has already begun through the arrival of flights from Cuba.

Cubana de Aviacion [subhead]

Representatives of the Cuban dictatorship have managed to obtain permission from our government to make "charter" flights to our territory as a subtle way to establish a presence here. The flight number of the Cubana de Aviacion plane that lands at the Juan Santamaria International Airport is 462-463. The plane is a TV-1543. It arrives in San Jose at 1100 and leaves for Managua at 1300 (see copy of official document in this section). The company insists that the ground personnel who service the flights be Cuban and not Costa Rican.

Trade Mission [subhead]

As reported by us in this section a few days ago, Cuban agents are simultaneously operating in our territory for the alleged purpose of organizing a trade exposition in Havana. One of the chief objectives of the Castro dictatorship is to establish a "trade mission" in Costa Rica as a step toward establishing an embassy.

Official Infiltration [subhead]

A group of left-wing extremists and undercover collaborators has been selected to pressure certain people in the government into helping achieve these objectives.

Concern [subhead]

Some sectors in our community are alarmed at the degree of influence that some communist groups "and fellow travelers," including some former officials of the Carazo administration, are gaining in certain quarters of the current administration. It has even been learned that a well-known pro-Sandinist group has written the president of the Republic a letter asking that he dismantle the National Security Office, which is in charge of controlling the terrorist groups that are conspiring against our democratic system and freedom.

El Salvador

Storm Causes Evacuations; Areas Isolated

PA2510041788 San Salvador Canal Doce Television
in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Emergency services report that 3,000 families have been victimized by tropical storm Miriam so far. It has also been reported that there have been no fatalities, although certain areas of the country have been left completely isolated as a result of the storm's effects. According to a Salvadoran Red Cross report, the Acajutla Port currently faces the greatest danger because wind velocity has been clocked at 90 km per hour. Waves 8 meters high have been observed. [passage omitted]

Felipe Pineda of the National Emergency Committee has reported that more than 3,000 families have been evacuated from San Miguel, Usulután, La Paz, La Unión,

and Ahuachapan Departments, which have suffered the worst damage. Despite the seriousness of the floods, however, no fatalities have been reported.

[Begin Pineda recording] We have evacuated 1,500 families from San Miguel, because La Pelota, Playa Grande, Tilianguera, El Borbollon, (Teocalito), Santa Fidelity, Hacienda Los Milagros, San Juan Bosco, and El Consuelo were flooded again. As you know, these areas had previously been affected by the rains. The rain has again flooded these areas, although to a lesser extent. El Cuco was also evacuated because the water level reached 6 meters. There is no electricity, telephone, or water service there at present.

Furthermore, 500 families have been evacuated in Usulután. Puerto Parada was flooded again [words indistinct]. Heavy rains in Usulután have been reported, and 500 families have been evacuated. Something similar is happening in Ahuachapan. Waves are very high. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Early this afternoon, tropical storm Miriam was 80 km west of Acajutla. The wind had a steady velocity of 90 km per hour.

ARENA's Ochoa Says FMLN Militarily Weak
PA2510191388 San Salvador Canal Doce Television
in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Report by Isabel Ruiz on statements by Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) leader Sigifredo Ochoa Perez on 24 October—place not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Begin Ochoa recording] We are facing an escalation of violence caused by the FMLN, which shows its military weakness more than anything else. The FMLN is supposedly attacking military targets, but neither a jail nor a shopping mall is a military target. Commercial areas or amusement places are not military targets. Car bombs went off in such places lately. They went off at a chain of [words indistinct] and at a shopping mall. The FMLN's strategy is simply to increase its terrorist actions.

For that reason, it is regrettable that the Salvadoran Government describes the FMLN as a group in arms, because they are merely terrorist criminals. [passage omitted]

There is political weakness, because the Armed Forces are not given clear missions. We see the actions of the Armed Forces and the security corps are frustrated, because they spend time, effort, and men capturing terrorists while the government subsequently releases them for humanitarian reasons.

I believe the government must apply the laws more forcefully and stop deceiving the population with words such as democratization and with its great political demagoguery. [end recording]

Finally, Ochoa Perez criticized the meeting Costa Rican President Oscar Arias will hold with representatives of the FMLN General Command today. He said Oscar Arias is not the right person to deal with Salvadoran internal affairs.

Church Office Blames FMLN for Peasants' Death
PA2510191588 San Salvador Canal Doce Television
in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Excerpts] During the usual Sunday mass homily, Maria Julia Hernandez, director of the archbishopric Legal Assistance Office, read the weekly report issued by her office, which blames and harshly condemns the FMLN for the recent murder of four peasants in Tres Ceibas canton, Apopa municipality.

[Begin recording] [Hernandez] After conducting the corresponding investigations, we concluded the FMLN had killed the four peasants.

[Reporter Marta Elena Jimenez] The residents of the area, however, claim the peasants were killed by 1st Infantry Brigade troops.

[Hernandez] Yes. The men identified themselves as 1st Infantry Brigade troops. That is why the peasants say that. The peasants said: We saw people who identified themselves as members of the 1st Infantry Brigade. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Hernandez also vigorously condemned the bomb explosions that took place at San Salvador shopping malls in the [name indistinct] neighborhood and at several Nationalist Republican Alliance locations. [passage omitted]

Venceremos Claims Clash Between Army Battalions

One report states that "on 22 October, troops of Lempa Battalion's 3d Company posted in Morocala Canton, Concepcion Batres jurisdiction, Usulután Department, clashed with a company of the Infantes de Marina Battalion near Usulután." The information reveals that "as a result of the fierce clash, one lieutenant of the Lempa Battalion and five members of the Infantes de Marina Battalion were killed, and many others were wounded."

FMLN Inflicts 25 Casualties on Army in Ambush
PA2610020288 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Martí
in Spanish to El Salvador 2355 GMT 26 Oct 88

[Text] FMLN guerrillas have inflicted 25 more casualties on the repressive troops of the dictatorship. A guerrilla unit ambushed a convoy of military trucks from Military Detachment No 2 at 0230 today. The convoy was carrying troops from Sensuntepeque to Ilobasco. The guerrillas set off three Manuel Jose Arce-type mines as the convoy passed by, hitting one of the trucks and

inflicting 25 casualties on the enemy. Completely frightened, the enemy fired in all directions with a heavy-caliber machinegun mounted on an armored vehicle. After staging this ambush, our comrades confirmed the 25 casualties and distributed propaganda directed at the soldiers, who were urged to desert. Soldier of the army of defeat, abandon it or you will be the next one dead! Death to Reagan's policy! Yankees out of El Salvador!

Assembly Restructures Electoral Council

PA2210133788 *San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY*
in Spanish 21 Oct 88 pp 3, 15

[Summary] The Salvadoran Legislative Assembly restructured the Central Electoral Council yesterday. Jose Ricardo Perdomo, Christian Democratic Party member and current economy minister, was designated as the council's new president. He replaces Arturo Mendez Azahar and will begin acting as the council's president on 1 November 1988. Juan Jose Bonilla will be the new National Conciliation Party representative to the Central Electoral Council.

'Popular Violence' To 'Eliminate' Government

PA2110221088 *(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti*
in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Popular violence will soon eliminate this government of death squads and its training center, the Yankee embassy. Our slogan is more fitting today than ever: A regime maintained by violent means must be toppled by violent means.

Government Urban Plan 'Desperate' Answer

PA2210001988 *(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti*
in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The urban counterinsurgency plan is the dictatorship's desperate answer to the people's rebellion. The plan, made known by the sausage-vendor Guzman Aguilar of the National Police, is a large-scale plan that involves not only the capital, but the entire San Salvador Volcano area as well as the cities of Santa Ana, San Miguel, and Usulután. These cities have recently experienced the intrusive deployment of troops, whose objective is to prevent our urban command operations.

The Army high command has had to send one of its elite units, the Atlacatl Battalion, to the San Salvador Volcano area to carry out the "Tornado" operation. It has been carrying out this operation for the past 2 months to no avail, because the rebellious people have continued to be active in San Salvador and its outskirts, under the very nose of the Atlacatl Battalion, which fled Chalatenango Department in defeat and which witnessed the attack against and destruction of the El Paraiso Barracks. The battalion again is demonstrating its ineffectiveness—this time at the San Salvador Volcano. Meanwhile, the cities of Santa Ana and San Miguel awoke

today, 20 October, to a strong military operation to prevent guerrilla attacks. The naive 6th Brigade commander, Orlando Montano, announced that he will place three counterinsurgency battalions at the disposal of the Santiago de Maria coffee growers. On the slopes of San Salvador Volcano, in the early morning of 19 October, 1st Infantry Brigade troops carried out a noisy exercise to prepare themselves to prevent guerrilla attacks.

The troop deployment in the country's main cities indicates that the dictatorship already senses that it is in agony, and, as it prepares to die, it is trying to get ready to confront the people's just rebellion, which is expressed in the form of street demonstrations by workers and the enlistment of young people into our guerrilla and militia units.

The regime is desperate. That is why it is committing massacres; that is why it is preparing to launch its criminal battalions against the workers in the cities and in the countryside. The regime's behavior is a sign of weakness and defeat. Let the people defeat the repression. Brothers, workers, [words indistinct] the clandestine militias and guerrillas.

Visit by Defense Board Delegation Viewed

PA2110203088 *(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti*
in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Unattributed commentary]

[Summary from poor reception] "On 18 October, 60 IADB [Inter-American Defense Board] delegates arrived in the country. The IADB is an organization composed of Latin American and U.S. military men that supports the U.S. Administration's domination policy for our countries.

"The object of the visit is to obtain on-site information on the results of the counterinsurgency, or low-intensity, warfare that Yankee advisers have been promoting in our country and to advise the high command on how to pull the Army out of the quagmire that it is now in."

The FMLN invites the IADB delegates to visit various sites in El Salvador so they may witness how ineffective the regime's counterinsurgency effort is and so they may become aware of "the criminal disposition of the puppet Army."

Guatemala

URNG's Monsanto on Government Actions, Fighting

FL2210025588 *Havana Television Cubana Network*
in Spanish 0130 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Interview with Commander Pablo Monsanto, member of the general command of the URNG, during the "International View" program hosted by Eduardo Dimas; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Dimas] Commander, first of all let me thank you for the interview you have granted us. Guatemala is a country that historically—I would say since the

1960's—has been an object of great public attention as a result of, first, a guerrilla movement that ultimately was thwarted and, later, all the historical events that have taken place there, especially repression.

Starting 2 years ago, as a result of the propaganda, especially geared for abroad, I would say that a new image of the Guatemalan situation has been created by showing, among other things, a decrease of repression. To what extent has this been true during Vinicio Cerezo's government?

[Monsanto] We would like to begin by thanking you for this opportunity to speak to the Cuban people and all the television viewers. Approximately 2 and 1/2 years ago a change of government took place in Guatemala during which a civilian government was installed. It replaced military governments that had existed in Guatemala in the last few decades. This event is a result of the policies developed, on the one hand, by the U.S. Government as part of the Central America regional strategy and, on the other, a need on the part of the regimes that have existed in Guatemala during the last 34 years to stand up to and attempt to contain the revolutionary triumph.

[Dimas] Excuse me. The way a sort of publicity campaign geared toward other countries aimed, I would say, at attempting to soften the reputation, the bad reputation, of the Guatemalan governments has caught our attention a lot—especially those of us who follow Central American policy. If I remember correctly—especially last year, throughout 1987—this campaign was particularly strong. The image of Vinicio Cerezo and the Christian Democratic Party was portrayed in such a way that it looked as though nothing was happening in Guatemala.

[Monsanto] From the beginning, the intention of the Cerezo regime was to create expectations at the national and international level. These expectations were aimed precisely at creating an image of a democratic government and a government in which the various political and social sectors were going to participate in a new stage of the life of the country. However, this has not taken place in Guatemala. On the contrary, the Cerezo government has not been able to make any substantial changes that would bring an end to repression and terror, or to initiate a process for the respect and guarantee of human rights.

[Dimas] Was the Christian Democratic Party really planning to change the situation in Guatemala or was this actually a new look at a counterinsurgency plan?

[Monsanto] In reality, it was a new look at a counterinsurgency plan from the Army. Nevertheless, the Christian Democratic Party included in its program the intention of carrying out some reforms that are needed to improve the situation of important sectors of the Guatemalan population. But this is not possible under the conditions Guatemala is in without the popular, labor, peasant, student, and intellectual sectors. This support can only be won by the government with measures aimed

at creating a truly democratic regime that brings social benefits and economic development, truly representing for the country a process of national independence.

[Dimas] Going back to the subject. It could be thought that Vinicio Cerezo could be what [words indistinct] was, that is, a U.S. card to attempt to smooth out tension somewhat or at least to give a new look to the Guatemalan Government.

[Monsanto] Yes, we are convinced that he is a card the U.S. Government decided to play 2 and 1/2 years ago in order to create the Guatemalan Government's new image. This was needed because of the country's domestic situation, to break with the isolation the military regimes have fallen into because of the lack of international prestige as a result of the brutal repression and terror. The previous military regimes subjected the Guatemalan people to grazed land, crimes against the Guatemalan people, massacres. All this had taken the Guatemalan regime to be pretty isolated internationally. The important thing with Cerezo was to break with the international isolation. [passage omitted]

[Dimas] Finally, Commander, we would like to talk with you about the status of the guerrilla movement in Guatemala. It is known that since various guerrilla movements united, the guerrilla fighting has intensified. However, you have had to take what we could call strong blows by the Guatemalan Army. What is the current situation of the guerrilla movement in Guatemala?

[Monsanto] There have really been no blows to our military forces. We can categorically affirm that the Guatemalan Army has not been able to give any military blows to the URNG guerrilla forces. The blows the Army gave were mainly aimed at the social grass roots sectors, mainly a large group of peasants and Indians of Guatemala who live in the areas of conflict.

During the military governments, the Guatemalan Army began to implement a counterinsurgency structure based fundamentally in 23 military bases and the forced organization of over 1 million peasants in the self-defense civilian patrols. The goal of the entire military apparatus is to control the population and the territory and to reduce the operation areas of the guerrilla movement. However, in the last 2 years, since the unity agreements were reached, united and coordinated military campaigns have taken place. They have resulted in the deterioration of the live forces of the Army and have enabled us to force them to withdraw from the territory which has later been occupied by the guerrilla forces. In this way, we have recovered territory and people. We overcame the situation we had 2 years ago.

Currently, we are operating in eight departments of the country. We even have a guerrilla front 40 km from the capital. These departments have large population concentrations. The population is mainly Indian. The influence of the guerrilla movement has increased in the last

2 years. This influence has in a way been favored by the lack of compliance of the Cerezo government because of the deterioration the Cerezo government has suffered, the frustration of the population in seeing that the expectations created by the Cerezo government were frustrated.

Thus, the current situation of the guerrilla movement could be termed as favorable. We believe we have gotten out of the more delicate and critical situation. At one point they were able to isolate us from the population through terror and repression. We have been able to break from that isolation.

From the military standpoint, our forces have continued to grow. They have grown not only in numbers but also in quality. The combat experience we have obtained in the last 8 years of war in the country has trained our officers and combatants. Currently, the military operations we carry out are much more superior from the military standpoint from the ones the guerrilla movement could have had in past decades.

[Dimas] Commander, I thank you for this interview you have granted us for "International View" program. Thank you television viewers for the attention given to us. Good night.

Honduras

Azcona: Protocol Negotiations With U.S. Continue
PA2510181288 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video
in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Excerpts] President Jose Azcona has reaffirmed that negotiations with the U.S. Government concerning the protocols are still under way. In statements to the press yesterday, the president refused to comment on an alleged cabinet reorganization. He forecast that the Liberal Party will win next year's general elections and said Mario Rivera Lopez is childish to criticize the current government. President Azcona's statements are as follows in a report by Gustavo R. Rubi:

[Begin recording] [Passage omitted] [Rubi] Mr President, your recent proposal has been most successful inasmuch as the Government of Spain has sent representatives to see if a peace zone can be established along the border.

[Azcona] I want the entire world to turn their eyes toward Nicaragua, toward this region, and see it is necessary to promote a political solution in Nicaragua so all Central Americans can live in peace. I believe Honduras deserves that tranquillity. We have never created any problems for our neighbors. [passage omitted]

[Rubi] Presidential Designate Jaime Rosenthal Oliva has said serious mistakes have been made concerning the negotiations with the international organizations.

[Azcona] When arrangements are made with these organizations, one must yield; and when one falls behind in payments, one must meet delinquency payments. This morning, I talked with the Central Bank president, and I will also talk with the finance minister so they will reply to the statements made by Jaime Rosenthal Oliva, the estranged presidential designate.

[Rubi] You have contradicted the foreign minister concerning the negotiations [with the United States] over the protocols.

[Azcona] No, there is no contradiction. The protocol has not been suspended; it is being revised. As I said in another interview, it is very sensitive. For example, if a hangar is built in this country, people say it is a military base, even if this hangar is built within a Honduran base and is going to be administered by the Hondurans once it has provided service for the United States, for some plane or something. That is what I said. I have not said we have any contradictions.

[Rubi] Does this mean the foreign minister lied to the Nationalist Party leadership?

[Azcona] No, he did not lie, because the protocol has not been signed. It is being revised. He did not lie. That is very different from giving up altogether the signing of a protocol, as I said. Once it is sent to Congress and it is revised, the Honduran people will find out what it is all about. The National Congress is empowered to reject or approve it. [end recording]

Armed Forces Claim EPS Attacks on 21, 22 Oct
PA2510150188 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video
in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] Armed Forces sources have confirmed that on 21 and 22 October, the EPS attacked several Honduran Army posts in the area bordering Nicaragua in El Paraiso Department. Although the Honduran Army did not sustain any casualties, the Sandinists' artillery attacks are constant, the source added.

It was also reported that soldier Marco Tulio Ardon, who is being treated at the hospital school in Tegucigalpa, was wounded at the Nicaraguan border as the result of an accident, and not by artillery fire from the Sandinists or any rebel group.

Nicaragua

Ortega Comments on Damage in 5th Region
PA2610033688 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish
0134 GMT 26 Oct 88

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega in the "5th Region"—live]

[Text] Good evening, Nicaraguan brothers. We are in the 5th Region, where we are touring various locations that were literally destroyed, razed, just like Bluefields and Corn Island, by the hurricane. We are referring to a number of towns along the road from Juigalpa to Rama.

It is important that the Nicaraguan people, particularly those in the Pacific region and other areas that were not so brutally hit by the hurricane, who have been expressing their solidarity today with those affected by the hurricane on the Atlantic, in Bluefields, Corn Island, and other nearby towns, also express their solidarity with the inhabitants of Rama, Nueva Guinea, and Muelle de los Bueyes. We must remember that towns like Rama were completely swept away, literally razed, just as Bluefields and Corn Island were.

We visited Bluefields and Corn Island after the hurricane. Today, after visiting these towns in this area of the 5th Region, we find towns such as Rama that, in addition to having houses destroyed by the winds, were flooded with water and mud. The situation is really critical in the Rama area. The Nicaraguan brothers left homeless in Rama, Muelle de los Bueyes, and Nueva Guinea are sure that just like the brothers of Bluefields, Corn Island, and other towns in that area, they will receive the solidarity of the other inhabitants of Nicaragua as well as of the international community.

To give you an idea of the damage, the following were affected: La Esperanza, Rama, Muelle de los Bueyes, La Batea, El Coral, Nueva Guinea, La Gateada, Moha, Santo Tomas, La Libertad, Villa Sandino, Santo Domingo, La Pinuela, Acoyapa, Boaco, Camoapa, [name indistinct], and 22 more towns. This is what we have learned so far. These are the preliminary figures, so they will probably increase. A total of 13,917 houses were destroyed, seriously damaged, or left without a roof in Nueva Guinea alone, in addition to 17,000 destroyed in other areas. In other words, we are talking about more than 20,000 [figure as heard] houses destroyed or partially destroyed. Preliminary figures show that 20,000 families have no roof over their heads, no possessions—nothing. The only thing they have is the will, the spirit to work. This is obviously very important and essential. They only have the clothes they were wearing when the hurricane hit and the floods began. The blow is double here because, in addition to the hurricane winds—which were very intense and which knocked down houses and trees in all these places—there were floods that were truly dramatic. As you must have seen yesterday, towns like Rama were completely covered by water. Today, as the water level went down, we began this tour, and we have seen that the impact of the hurricane was truly amazing and painful. We could say that the hurricane caused as much damage in Bluefields and Corn Island as in these towns I have mentioned.

It is therefore important that these efforts being carried out today by the committee for those left homeless by the hurricane—which have been directed at the Atlantic Coast brothers, particularly those in Bluefields, Corn Island, and other nearby areas—also be directed at all our brothers who have been left homeless in these towns in the 5th Region. We must remember that right now we are not yet including in the count the hundreds, thousands of families in the rural areas. We do not yet have

a clear idea of how many of these families lost their houses or suffered casualties. We do not yet have the figures because they are being compiled. What we do know is that a great majority of these rural people have lost all their crops and houses, and they will have to start from scratch.

We know that 12 have died and 48 were injured, giving us a total of 60 casualties from the hurricane in this zone. In addition, 23 comrades are reported missing in the Rama River area.

It is important that both the Nicaraguans who were not directly affected by the hurricane and the international community know the extent of our losses. We estimate that the areas affected by the hurricane that were planted with rice, maize, beans, vegetables, [words indistinct], cacao, and coffee exceed 40,000 manzanas. If we add to this the cattle ranches that were affected, which we estimate at 11,000 manzanas, and the timber areas that were affected, which we estimate at 102,500 manzanas, the economic, physical, and ecological effects in this whole region are really incalculable. The region affected stretches over 100 km when going from west to east—that is, going in the direction of Bluefields. These areas were literally destroyed by the hurricane.

The hurricane destroyed forests, crops, and grazing land, and we do not know exactly how many cattle have been lost, although we do know that many cattle are dead.

There is also the damage to the power system. There is no water in these places, either. EPS tanker trucks are carrying water at this moment to the Rama area, where the population is gathering. Camps have been established in Rama, La Esperanza, and Muelle de los Bueyes.

As we were saying, the situation is very serious in all of these areas. It is extremely serious in these areas, and we are here coordinating efforts to bring quick relief to the population. A medical brigade was moved here today because there is fear that some epidemics may break out. The sanitary situation is quite serious.

We must point out the efficient way in which all civil defense systems have operated. The population was evacuated in an orderly fashion during the flooding and the hurricane winds. As a result, there was not a single death among the inhabitants of Rama, which was one of the cities that was completely flooded. Deaths did occur, but these were in neighboring communities. We must also point out the responsible, brave behavior of the comrade workers at the dock in Rama, who did not abandon their positions and stayed at their jobs. Thanks to this and to the fact that they concerned themselves with saving the place, the dock at Rama was spared. It should be back in operation more or less normally in 1 week or 10 days.

I must also mention that two ships sank and that another ship, a fishing boat, [words indistinct]. I should also note that while the people were [words indistinct] this way, the reservists from the 3d Region, with whom we have been talking right now and who are along the highway taking care of the bridges, and reservists from the 2d Region, heroic comrades and fighters, have not moved from their positions. They are in their positions, where they withstood the hurricane, the winds, the rains, and the flooding. Now, besides guarding the bridges, they are cooperating with the population, helping rescue the population, and supporting the population, which has been brutally hit by the hurricane.

While the population was making this display of organization and heroism, the mercenaries did not halt their attacks during 17-19 October period, that is during the time when the hurricane was coming. They did not stop their criminal attacks, but instead caused the deaths of five civilians and wounded five others, including one child. Three people were kidnapped during this time. These actions must be condemned once more by the Nicaraguan people, by every responsible citizen, and by the international community.

This is what we wanted to tell all of the Nicaraguan brothers, who are listening to us over this Radio Brotherhood headed by the Voice of Nicaragua. We will continue working, as we are doing right now at this time of night, to ensure the movement of relief supplies to assure the survival of the population. The first thing that this population needs is water. On Corn Island, the people have resorted to getting water from coconuts. The only water they had was the water obtained from the thousands of coconuts blown down by the hurricane. In Bluefields, they still have some small reserves of water, but there is no water here. As I said at the beginning, we are having to bring in this vital liquid from Juigalpa. EPS tank cars are bringing water to the affected towns, to the people who are on the highways, in the outlying areas, in tents, and in schools.

They are really facing pretty harsh conditions, but we find that their morale is high, they are optimistic and determined to restore and rebuild everything that was destroyed by the hurricane.

Good night, Nicaraguan brothers.

Workers' Help Urged

PA2610015088 *Managua Domestic Service in Spanish*
1215 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Communique issued by workers organizations—date and place not given]

[Text] The grass-roots elements of the revolution—aware of the national state of emergency caused by Hurricane Joan throughout the country, which according to the latest count left dozens of people dead, 300,000

homeless, and extensive damage to the national economy—call on all workers to perform the duties required in this situation. The Nicaraguan people's organized response prevented great loss of life, and once again our organizational abilities and fighting spirit were tested.

With the same determined national effort with which we defeated the dictatorship, the mercenary forces, and the hurricane, we will succeed in rebuilding our country.

We, the grass-roots elements of the revolution, request aid from the international community, although we are aware that rebuilding the country primarily will be through our own efforts. Thousands of Nicaraguans, including health, communications, and construction workers, are willing to be sent to any part of the country to assist in the national reconstruction.

All workers will therefore perform the following duties:

1. To continue defending the survival economy by guaranteeing the labor force's participation in producing agricultural exports and basic grains.
2. To face the economic and social challenge that the new situation demands with better organization, more and better work, higher discipline, and, mainly, increased savings of fuel, energy, and raw materials.
3. To rebuild the economic infrastructure by organizing special brigades for the reconstruction of houses, bridges, roads, the electrical system, ports, and so forth.
4. To share, to the degree possible, our food, clothing, and resources with our fellow victims.

We call on the other political, economic, and labor organizations to act with a humanitarian and patriotic spirit, to contribute to this great national effort, and to not take advantage of the emergency situation we are living through today.

[Signed] Jose Benito Escobar Sandinist Central Organization of Workers
Rural Workers Association
Health Workers Federation
National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers
National Employees Union
National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen
Union of Nicaraguan Journalists
CONAPRO [Heroes and Martyrs Confederation of Nicaraguan Professional Associations]
CONATI [not further identified]

U.S. Stand 'Criminal'

PA2510163588 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish
1800 GMT 24 Oct 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] Incredibly, even though you... [changes thought] frankly, by now we can believe anything about the U.S. Government. Just listen to this:

We all know of the disastrous situation affecting Nicaragua: the total destruction of Bluefields, Corn Island, Nueva Guinea, Rama, Acoyapa, and Villa Sandino, among other peasant communities in Region 5, and in the autonomous region of Zelaya Norte.

Nonetheless, the U.S. Government is launching a propaganda campaign to prevent aid from reaching Nicaragua. Both the Voice of America and White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater have issued different messages to keep the international community and Nicaraguans living abroad from sending aid to Nicaragua.

The only word to describe the U.S. Government's undertaking such a campaign is criminal. It cannot be described as anything other than criminal, because precisely when this country is going through such difficult times—in addition to the war of aggression that Nicaragua has been suffering through for 7 years, which has been sponsored, directed, and financed by the U.S. Government; has claimed more than 50,000 lives, leaving thousands handicapped; and has caused losses in excess of \$12 billion—precisely at this time, when we are also being battered by Hurricane Joan, which has caused incalculable physical damage, leaving more than 50 people dead and 40 missing, in such a disastrous situation, Ronald Reagan's government once again reveals its criminal nature, urging others not to help us.

Thank goodness almost nobody believes in the Voice of America any more; almost nobody listens to it as a trustworthy voice. And thank goodness the EEC, the churches of the world, the people of the world, Mexico, Cuba, which was the first country to send us aid, the socialist community, and the Latin American community have turned a deaf ear to this U.S. criminal call and are sending aid to us.

Once again, this is a test to see who is lying, who is a criminal, who is on the side of reason, and who is the one doing the building in Nicaragua. Yet it is necessary to remember once again the fundamental force to solve our own problems is within ourselves. If we thought we worked a lot before, now we have to work three times as much. If we used to work 8 hours Monday-Friday, now we must work up to 10 hours Monday-Saturday to rebuild this country.

That is the reason for the 22 October solidarity call by Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce and Nicaraguan President and Commander of the Revolution

Daniel Ortega. This call must be heeded by all Nicaraguans. We must show solidarity among ourselves, because while many of us suffered some loss in Managua, Leon, Chinandega, Rivas, Jinotepe, San Rafael del Sur, Tipitapa, Matagalpa, and Esteli, the greatest suffering occurred in Boaco, Teustepe, Rama, Bluefields, Corn Island, and Nueva Guinea. Solidarity must be shown toward those who need it most. If we have five trousers, we must donate at least one to the Atlantic coast comrades; if we have five cooking pots, we must give at least one to the Atlantic coast; if we have five shirts, one for our Atlantic coast brothers; if we have 5 pounds of rice stored away, give one to our Atlantic coast brothers. We all know we have economic problems. We all have them; we all presently have needs. But those with the greatest needs are our brothers on the Atlantic coast. Without our help, they will be unable to survive.

This is the immediate call. The immediate call is to work, rebuild, and make sustained sacrifices, because we may get thousands of tons of food, we may get billions of dollars, but all of that will be useless if we do not work, if we do not turn those billions of dollars, that aid sent by other people, into immediate productive results by increasing our assigned production, by improving the quality of services. We must follow the example set by the health brigades, which did not leave a single residential area without service during the emergency. We must follow the example of Nicaraguan Energy Institute brigades that at 0600 on the day in question were in the streets rebuilding the powerline grid, the example of Nicaraguan Aqueducts and Sewers Institute brigades that are repairing damaged wells, and the example of production workers who are presently preparing to go to the worst affected areas.

This is the kind of example now required. The example of leaders such as President Daniel Ortega himself, who headed this gigantic national effort and served as its leader at the most difficult of times; Commander Carlos Nunez, who was in Region 6; Commander Victor Tirado, who was in Region 5; Commander Bayardo Arce, who was here in Managua; the rest of the National Directorate, who were at their battle stations; Commander William Ramirez, who headed the civil defense in Bluefields and was there when the hurricane was pounding the city; Ray Hooker, who was on Corn Island and gave an example of heroism—even though the hurricane razed everything to the ground on Corn Island, Ray Hooker was there, leading the islanders.

The Sandinist Front leads the people. That was the example we received during this emergency, the example we continue to receive. Thus, the call at this time is for solidarity and work.

International Aid Arrives

PA2610001488 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
1808 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Summary] Managua, 25 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Aid started to arrive in Nicaragua today from several Latin American and West European countries. The aid is for victims of Hurricane Joan, which left 83 dead and 450,000 homeless.

Reinaldo Tefel, president of Nicaragua's National Emergency Commission, met last night with the ambassadors of the Group of Eight countries, the Ecuadoran ambassador, and several European diplomats to explain the magnitude of the disaster and to ask for aid. Tefel gave the ambassadors a list of basic goods his country needs, including powdered milk, meat, juice, canned food, shoes, clothes, medicine, and tents.

Colombian Ambassador to Nicaragua Tito Mosquera said today that the participants in the upcoming Group of Eight meeting in Punta del Este, Uruguay, will look into providing aid to Nicaragua's homeless.

A Mexican Air Force C-130 Hercules plane arrived at Managua airport with 7 tons of food yesterday. The FRG Government, which previously suspended aid to Nicaragua, offered the Sandinist government \$140,000 to solve immediate needs. According to the FRG Embassy in Managua, \$1.5 million more in technical assistance will be made available for rebuilding towns and communities wiped out by Hurricane Joan.

A spokesman for the Spanish Embassy told ACAN-EFE that the EEC will send emergency aid estimated at \$700,000. The Austrian Embassy also sent a shipment of medicine today and is working on a package of "considerable economic aid." The British Embassy donated \$400,000.

Cuban Aid Flights To Arrive

*PA2510152988 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish
1810 GMT 24 Oct 88*

[Text] As of now, Cuba is the only country that has sent aid to Nicaraguan victims of the hurricane that pounded a large portion of the country. The arrival of two more flights loaded with food from Cuba are expected this afternoon.

With the arrival of these two flights, seven planes will have arrived in Managua with aid for coastal victims. Two planes with 45 tons of food and medicine each arrived this morning from the Caribbean island.

Honduran 'Attacks, Provocations' Protested

*PA2610002488 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish
2311 GMT 25 Oct 88*

["Protest note" sent by Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto to Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras from Managua on 24 October]

[Text] Your Excellency, Carlos Lopez Contreras, Honduran Foreign Minister:

I am writing to Your Excellency in regard to the following events:

AT 1100 on 19 October, members of the Honduran Army harassed, from Honduran territory, a post of our border guard troops in (Malinque) at military grid coordinates 5309, 11 km north of Somotillo. They used FAL rifles and M-60 machineguns in the attack

At 1040 on 20 October, members of the Honduran Army attacked, from Honduran territory, a reconnaissance patrol of our border guard troops in (Los Aguacales) at coordinates 5209, 10 km north of Somotillo. They used FAL rifles, M-60 machineguns, and M-79 grenade launchers. That same day, Honduran Army soldiers attacked a reconnaissance patrol of our border guard troops in La Bocana, at coordinates 5589, 13 km north of Somotillo. They used FAL and M-16 rifles.

At 1000, on 22 October, Honduran Army soldiers in Palo Verde, at coordinates 5706, used rifle fire to attack the Nicaraguan town of (Vado Ancho).

At 0345, on 23 October, Honduran troops, located on La Campana Hill, at coordinates 5601, attacked with .50-caliber machinegun fire the Murupuchi observation post at coordinates 5500, 4 km north of Teotecacinte.

Since it was forced by these attacks to neglect its current urgent and priority tasks, the Nicaraguan Government formally and vigorously protests these actions, which, in addition to being evidence of a systematic practice of attacks and provocations against the national territory in violation of international law, exhibit an insensitivity to the tragedy that the Nicaraguan people are suffering as a result of the devastation caused by the passage of a hurricane through large areas of the country. The circumstances under which these kinds of actions have taken place show that the Honduran Government has not only lent itself to the policy of terror and death being implemented by the U.S. Government, but that it has also continued its involvement in that illegal policy, even at such difficult times for the Nicaraguan people.

My government vigorously demands respect for the international legal order and respect for the grief of the Nicaraguans.

I express to Your Excellency my regards.

[Signed] Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister

Contras Attack Farms, Ambush Vehicle in Region 5

*PA2510121088 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish
2300 GMT 24 Oct 88*

[Report by Rina Campos from Region 5]

[Text] We want to report the atrocities perpetrated by the counterrevolution, which has taken advantage of Nicaragua's state of emergency. The counterrevolution

does not care about the suffering of the peasant families that have lost their homes, food, and crops as a result of the damage caused by Hurricane Joan.

At 1700 on 21 October, a group of about 15 contras went to Santos Abel Rocha's house, also called the Nina farm, located in the Piedra Grande community. The peasant was not at home so the contras took away his son, Abel Rocha Taleno, two mules, and one horse.

The contras left at 2100 and proceeded to the Santa Lucia farm owned by Mexico Campos, where they killed the overseer, Prospero Tellez Perez. The contras hanged him 50 meters from the farm and then stole some horses. Abel Rocha Taleno's corpse was found today, 24 October, at 0900. His throat had been slit by the contras at Santa Ula farm.

The same counterrevolutionary group ambushed a vehicle at 1400 in San Francisco del Coyol, wounding six people, including two civilians. One of the civilians has been identified as 60-year-old Santos Vargas Santos, but the other civilian has yet to be identified. The following comrades sustained minor wounds: Leonidas Gomez Peralta, Daniel Benavides Centeno, Frank Perez, and Freddy Gonzalez.

Ramirez Comments on Hurricane, U.S., Mexico
PA2510133988 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish
21 Oct 88 pp 1, 10-A, 11-A

[Report on interview with Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado by Miguel Reyes Razo—date and place not given]

[Text] The Nicaraguan vice president looked worried over the certainty that a hurricane would severely affect his country. "The corrugated steel roofs will fly off and the fragile huts in Bluefields will be blown away," he said. It was noon. He was restless. [Mexican Secretary of Foreign Relations] Bernardo Sepulveda was offering Mexico's help. Ramirez said:

"The Nicaraguan revolution, which [former Mexican President] Jose Lopez Portillo described in Managua in 1980 as the last hope for change in the 20th century, is still just that. Latin America claimed the revolution as its own. Latin America defends it, strengthens it, and stands up for it against the United States."

"What mistakes did the Nicaraguan revolution make?" the reporter asked.

And the man with the sleepy eyes, childish looks, and hair without any gray replied with reservations:

"In the initial years, a fundamental one: Too many dreams. It was imbued with the idea that it could solve everything—absolutely everything—from one day to the next. It never calculated the weight of enmity from the

United States, or the high cost of such ill will. It never prepared for the long struggle. It was pressed for change. It was difficult to admit this reality, that Nicaragua is living in a war economy...

"We paid—right now—a very high price. Today we are defending and preserving. And we want to transform everything. The Nicaraguan revolution has not lost its capacity to dream. It is only postponing it."

Trips and storms were changing his itinerary. It was 1330 and he was just having breakfast. He wanted to speak about literature. He wanted to describe his recent novel "Castigo Divino" [Divine Punishment], but [Mexican President] Miguel de la Madrid and [President-Elect] Carlos Salinas were waiting.

Central America and democracy were also waiting.

"In general terms," he said, "democracy in Central America is an experiment. Many forces conspire against it right there. The struggle is not easy..."

Sometimes, the reporter interjected, some people yearn for the military...

"In Central America and in Latin America the military failed in government. They only surrendered power to civilians—there you have Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay—when their failure in managing the economy could no longer be hidden."

And Chile? asked the reporter.

"There you have a similar phenomenon, but no one is certain that Pinochet wants to give up power."

He is never alone. Ever. Either with Luis Balcarcel—faithful assistant—or three bushy-browed bodyguards. Silent shadows, but ever present. The vice president of Nicaragua leaves in his plate some potatoes and in his glass some milk. He lights a cigar. He speaks of plans and trips that the climate will permit. He inhales, exhales.

"Ronald Reagan's administration failed in its attempt to turn Latin America into an enemy of Nicaragua. He also failed in his military effort. The CIA squandered money—millions of dollars—in its determination to establish in Nicaragua cells that would conspire against the revolution..."

Is your country interested in establishing a dialogue with the United States?

"Of course we are interested. So far Nicaragua has paid a high price for aggression. We want—in spite of our size—to live with respect. We want an end to the nightmare of aggression, but Nicaragua wants to be an independent country."

Politician, writer. Political writer. Sergio Ramirez Mercado explains that he is not just a decorative vice president. "I carry out specific functions in education, in transportation, and I am also into planning."

And with exasperation:

"These 8 years of aggression have deprived Nicaragua of more than \$20 billion. We produce nothing. We harvest nothing. Infrastructure is neglected. The Front fights on many fronts..."

How do people feel? asked the reporter.

"The people's spirits are high. They know they are confronting a basic problem: Either they are independent and resist, or they are subordinate to the United States. The Nicaraguan people are defending their moral and political values. Reagan's strategy—to tire the people out and weaken the government until it toppled—also failed. The people did not turn their backs on their revolution."

Close by, the people responsible for the Nicaraguan vice president's safety were keeping watch. They were checking identity cards and verifying schedules and appointments. No strings were left untied.

Would you say the Nicaraguan revolution is safe now? asked the reporter.

"The revolution has been strengthened during these 10 years of struggle. The revolution has ethical and political values. Nicaragua is poor but its revolution is strong. Today we are constructing for the future. The new revolutionary man is being shaped in the mountain, in the cooperatives, in the schools."

Are you confident that the future U.S. president will cease the aggression against Nicaragua?

Ramirez, who values alliances and support and who has stated that "many private U.S. organizations are helping Nicaragua," replied:

"We have to wait to see what happens. It is not important who gets to the White House in January 1989. If the person who reaches the White House, Republican or Democrat, continues to harass Nicaragua as Reagan has done, he will fail, he will not succeed."

The reporter asked if there was a moment when Nicaragua saw U.S. military intervention as imminent.

"That danger still exists. Reagan thought the contra mercenaries would topple the Sandinist government. However, he has never ruled out direct military intervention. He assumed that weakening the Nicaraguan Government would suffice."

Why has the United States not intervened militarily in Nicaragua as it did in Grenada?

"Because it would have had a very high cost. Though it is small, Nicaragua is no Grenada. The people are ready to fight. Nicaragua would resist. It was decided that it would be cheaper to arm the contras. Overall, these have been years of military and political victory for us. Nicaragua asserted itself internationally."

Ramirez is 46. He writes novels at dawn but dedicates the rest of the day to the revolution. He has three children; one studies in Austria and the other two in Managua. Today, because of the hurricane approaching Nicaragua, his agenda is very intricate:

"We have just planted; it will rain heavily; a lot will be lost."

What has the revolution given the Nicaraguan people? asked the reporter.

"The revolution has given them a new perspective. The country previously lived in poverty, in backwardness, and it lacked hope. Today, almost 10 years after the revolution's victory, the people have hope although the revolution has not been able to solve all their problems. They know they have the tools in their hands to make changes, and they are learning to use the tools. The people live in a democracy; they have a right to speak; they give their opinions; they organize. The Nicaraguan citizen knows the key to change is in his hands and that peace is fundamental. He is constructing his future...."

How were relations with Mexico during President Miguel de La Madrid's administration?

"We have very close relations with Mexico, which formed and promoted Contadora. It created the diplomatic front that demanded respect for Nicaragua. Its economic aid changed because Mexico is living in difficult times. Our relations, however, have been frank and cordial. The support given by Mexico to Nicaragua did not change. I have been in permanent contact with President de la Madrid and will visit him in the next few hours. It will be a farewell meeting, and I will bring him up to date in the Nicaraguan situation. I hope to meet with Salinas de Gortari to inform him...."

Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda interrupted our interview and talked privately with Ramirez, who returned still uncertain of a cultural tour he was to take, but he was already immersed in the task of obtaining aid for his country. Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez then mentioned the subject of writing:

"Writing is a matter of discipline. It requires hard work every day of the year. After 365 days have passed, you will have written a book. My writings are influenced by

the works of Dostoyevskiy, Dickens, Flaubert, Stendhal, and the best authors of the 19th century. Perhaps one of my stories will be made into a movie soon."

We shall see!

Panama

Emergency Declared To Deal With Storm Aftermath
PA2610123488 Panama City Televisora Nacional
in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] The government today declared a nationwide state of emergency to facilitate the implementation of measures aimed at countering the disastrous situation in important sectors of the country resulting from Hurricane Joan.

The executive decree issued this afternoon instructs all ministries and government agencies to offer the assistance, support, materials, supplies, and personnel required to solve as soon as possible the damage caused in the highway, health, food production, agrarian, livestock, sewer, electricity, and housing sectors.

The decree is signed by Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, and Targidio Bernal, acting government and justice minister.

Catholic Church Decries Human Rights Situation
PA2610004888 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
1748 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] Panama City, 25 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Panama's Catholic Church today severely criticized the country's slow and inconsistent judicial system, the "inhuman treatment" of prisoners, the "influence" exerted on courts, and the courts' lack of credibility. A letter sent to Supreme Court President Marisol Reyes by Jose Luis Lacunza, secretary general of the Episcopal Conference of Panama, says the bishops "see with sadness how citizens are arrested, sentenced, and inhumanly treated—and we feel almost powerless." ACAN-EFE was given a copy of the letter today at the Panamanian archbishopric.

The Episcopal Conference's letter asserts that justice is "very slow in most cases," and it adds that "hundreds of prisoners spend a lot of time in jail awaiting trial." According to the bishops, "the sometimes notorious delays in the investigation of cases weakens the credibility of our courts. The same effect is caused by the influence exerted, no matter by whom, on the courts' decisions."

The Catholic leaders state their concern about "the procedures followed or omitted in the administration of justice in our country." The letter, signed by Bishop Lacunza, rector of the Santa Maria La Antigua Catholic University in Panama City, "on behalf of the Episcopal

Conference," lists various judicial irregularities. These include "being detained without an order from a relevant official and without guaranteeing the person's right to defend himself."

Furthermore, there are cases in which "a person was indefinitely detained without being arraigned before a relevant authority," or in which "a person was arrested or detained without being told why."

According to the Episcopal Conference, Panamanians are denied the right to be "presumed innocent"; the "right to legal assistance"; and "the right to file a writ of habeas corpus," thus violating constitutional and legal regulations.

The letter continues: "Furthermore, statements or depositions by private citizens—which are not made public out of fear or distrust of legal institutions—indicate that other basic human rights included in our Constitution are being violated." The bishops say these violations include "subjecting prisoners to physical and mental abuse; pressuring detainees so they will incriminate themselves; and exiling detainees against their will."

"Judicial sophistry is used to legalize the most flagrant abuses of justice," adds the letter, to which Panamanian judicial and political officials have not replied publicly.

U.S. Actions Against Marcos, Noriega Viewed
PA2510195088 Panama City LA REPUBLICA
in Spanish 24 Oct 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Ferdinand Marcos' Tragedy"]

[Text] A well-known saying that goes "the devil pays with Hell all those who serve him well" fits very well the case of Ferdinand Marcos, who is currently facing the U.S. "justice" system. Marcos is accused of having taken millions of dollars destined for the Philippines. Marcos took that money with the blessing of the U.S. Government at a time when Marcos' actions were at the service of U.S. interests.

When Marcos was the Pentagon's docile lamb, when he used all his power to let the large U.S. bases remain in the Philippines, everything was all right. Marcos could take millions upon millions of dollars with the blessing of the U.S. Administration, because Marcos' actions suited U.S. interests.

Marcos was a docile pawn; his answer to all of Uncle Sam's requests was "yes" [preceding word in English]. If Marcos outraged his people, if he had to cruelly fight all those who did not drink from the cup of Yankee expansionism, whatever Marcos did was unimportant. In that way, Marcos acquired valuable properties in the United States, saved a lot of money in banks, and invested a lot of money in businesses, which total millions of dollars.

Things have changed now. Reagan flirts with Corazon Aquino, who signed an agreement to extend the Yankee presence in the Philippines in exchange for \$1 billion. At present, the wife of the late leader of the Philippine opposition eats off of the same plate the Pentagon people do as long as the Pentagon deprives Marcos of his big fortune. The gringos, who have neither law nor God, now forget all the favors the dictator did them. With unprecedented cruelty, the gringos have now abandoned Marcos. It can be safely said Marcos could spend his last days in jail while he and his family are ruined.

The Panamanian traitors, who are determined to lick Reagan's boots and think that our country's ruin will allow them to attain the power the Panamanian people have denied them, should look at themselves in Marcos' mirror.

If the Panamanian situation were to change and General Noriega were to reach an agreement, Reagan and his gang would later have no qualms about abandoning him, making him pay dearly for his betrayal of the homeland.

Battalion To Join UN Peace Forces for Namibia
PA2410182088 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish
24 Oct 88 pp 1, 10

[Excerpt] United Nations, 23 Oct—One Panamanian battalion will be part of the peace forces the United Nations will send to oversee the fulfillment of the plan for the independence of Namibia.

Through Resolution No 435, approved by the UN Security Council, the United Nations established the aforementioned plan, which will enter into effect on 1 November.

In addition to the Panamanian battalion, battalions from Sudan, Bangladesh, Togo, Malaysia, Yugoslavia, and Finland will also be part of the UN peace forces. [passage omitted]

Labor Minister Comments on Unemployment
PA2610025188 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 25 Oct 88 pp A-1, A-2

[By Edmundo Dante Dolphy]

[Text] Dr Cesar Martans, labor and social welfare minister, has told LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA that there are currently 162,472 unemployed in the country, which is 20.6 percent of the active labor force.

The labor minister said that despite the current crisis, "calm continues to prevail. We still have serious problems, because it is not easy to face the world's strongest power and resist as we have."

Martans expounded on the labor situation according to statistics compiled by his ministry. Including termination of employment by mutual agreement and other causes, there were 28,853 dismissals from January to August this year. If one adds to that figure the 15,330 construction workers whose status is uncertain because that sector is inactive (although they have not been dismissed), there were 44,183 unemployed during that period.

If on top of that one adds the 89,331 people who lost their jobs between September and December last year and the more than 20,000 people who enter the job market each year, the minister said, we conclude that there are 162,472 unemployed, which is 20.6 percent of the active labor force, including the construction sector.

Minister Martans said what is most important is that unemployment is not increasing dramatically as it did between January and August this year. "It has stopped increasing and is now at a normal level. Despite the serious situation, calm and harmony still prevail," Minister Cesar Martans concluded.

Government Announces Stock Exchange Facility
PA2510040588 Panama City LA REPUBLICA
in Spanish 24 Oct 88 p 6

[By Cristobal Martinez R.]

[Excerpt] Panama will have within a few months an international stock exchange, which will have electronic equipment to offer efficient service to Panama's international financial center. It will be organized by the International Stock Exchange Enterprise, which operates in our country, and will have technicians and a first-class electronic system that will allow investors to buy and sell securities among enterprises, corporations, and individuals located in different parts of the world.

The statement to LA REPUBLICA was made by Georgina Perez, national director for the Securities Executive Directorate of the Commerce and Industries Ministry. [passage omitted]

Argentina

Alfonsin Comments on Group of Eight's Goals PY2610012988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1946 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (EFE)—Argentine President Raul Alfonsin has insisted on the need to formalize a dialogue with the United States that would accept and strengthen the new Latin American reality. This, he said, should be one of the main objectives of the meeting of the Group of Eight in Punta del Este (Uruguay).

In remarks to EFE, the Argentine president referred to the process of Latin American integration, the foreign debt, and drug trafficking problems. Alfonsin is president of the international drug control commission within the Group of Eight.

According to Alfonsin, "our relations with the United States will be the main subject of discussion in Punta del Este, and one of the main results of our meeting will be the promotion of a dialogue with the United States aimed at strengthening our ties based on what has been achieved over the past few years by the Latin American countries."

Alfonsin stated that the objective of the Group of Eight goes beyond its position on the Central American crisis, which gave birth to the Group, and which was defined last year with the "Acapulco Commitment."

"Concretely," he stated, "the Group of Eight is the reflection of a mature Latin America resolutely willing to be responsible for its problems and future. This is the role we intend to play without claiming to represent anyone or aspiring for hegemonic powers."

According to Alfonsin, "only a greater and better articulation of interests and aspirations will reduce Latin American and Caribbean vulnerability to external factors."

He added that only a year after the Acapulco meeting, "we can already say that (the Group of Eight) represents a new political figure on the international scene."

The Argentine president denies, however, that this group could be the start of a new OAS without the United States.

He said: "Our group is an instrument to coordinate political positions and joint projects," as opposed to the OAS, "a regional organization in which our countries are participating actively in an effort to strengthen it."

"The Group of Eight has no desire for confrontation, and its maturity and consolidation will not result in a confrontation. The experience of European unity is a good lesson in this respect."

Regarding the European experience in political unity, Alfonsin told EFE that "in Acapulco we established that our final objective is to walk toward a Latin American common market. We have already adopted a set of measures to establish, gradually and progressively, an expanded economic policy in the region."

He added: "In Punta del Este we will make an assessment of what has been done so far regarding integration, and we will prepare a work plan for next year, establishing concrete guidelines for the action of our governments."

According to the Argentine president, "the integration process implemented between my country and Brazil, and that with Uruguay, are part of the regional objective, and they strengthen this objective, although they have specific individual characteristics."

"A Latin American common market, obviously, is not decreed, but is built. Only in 1992 will Europe reach the objective of the common market proclaimed 4 decades ago," Alfonsin stated. "The process of integration with Brazil and Uruguay are part of the overall process of integration and do not exclude, but help, the other joint cooperation efforts in the region. All these efforts move toward the same strategic goal of Latin American integration."

Alfonsin believes that the foreign debt is interrelated with the obstructions to free trade, protectionism, the lack of financing, "and in general terms with all foreign restrictions to our growth."

"I think I can say this on behalf of all my colleagues: I believe that what is important is to change the way we face these problems and to begin a dialogue among the industrialized countries and our countries on the basis of our common goal: regional development."

Alfonsin said he is sure that "the Punta del Este meeting will produce a concrete proposal for the dialogue about our development, a proposal that will radically mark our relations for the next decade."

"I have no doubts that a solution to our common problems will be found if the basis for our efforts is our common development," Alfonsin said.

In his statements to EFE Alfonsin talked about technological development as a way to encourage growth. The president said: "We have already begun coordinating our efforts on technology. We have developed some concrete programs since the Acapulco meeting."

Alfonsin said: "In Punta del Este we will analyze the progress we have made in this field. We will encourage new ventures into 'technological clubs,' because it is essential to invest in science and technology if we want to have an active part in today's interdependent world."

Alfonsin did not see any importance in the fact that the Group of Eight meets barely 10 days before the U.S. elections.

The president said: "I think our relations with the United States will continue to improve regardless of the result of the U.S. elections. We have seen many indications of a new U.S. awareness that Latin America is going through a unique stage, marked by the consolidation of democracy and by sound efforts to promote peace and security in the region."

Regarding drug trafficking, Alfonsin, who is the president of the Group of Eight's drug control commission, said the situation "in various regional countries is becoming dramatic."

The ministers who deal with the drug problem in the Group of Eight met in Buenos Aires 2 weeks ago to agree on positions and proposals for discussion in Punta del Este and other regional and world forums.

Alfonsin said: "My government gives this problem very high priority. Happily though, the problem is not too acute in Argentina. No one, however, can afford to push the problem aside. We believe in international cooperation. All parties should assume their responsibility: the countries that produce the drugs, those used for the transit of drugs, and most important, those where the consumer centers are located."

Alfonsin Meets With Chilean Opposition Leaders
PY2610105788 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
0100 GMT 26 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (TELAM)—Leaders of Chilean political parties that oppose Augusto Pinochet's dictatorship met today with President Raul Alfonsin, with whom they discussed the plebiscite that was held on 5 October in that country, and the effects that the result can have on the return of democracy in Chile.

The following persons met with the president: former Chilean Foreign Minister Gabriel Valdes, and political leaders Ricardo Lagos, Enrique Silva Cima, Luis Mayra, and Juan Somavia, who were accompanied by Argentine Interior Minister Enrique Nosiglia and Raul Alconada Sempe, special affairs secretary of the foreign minister.

After the meeting at Government House, Silva Cima stated that they had outlined the viewpoints on how to recover democracy as quickly as possible via political and peaceful actions by the 16 political parties that advocated the no-vote.

He said that if the Armed Forces accept modifications to the Constitution it would help the recovery of democracy. [passage omitted]

Mrs Peron Arrives Unexpectedly, Grants Interview
PY2610021788 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
2024 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (TELAM)—In her first remarks to reporters, when she unexpectedly arrived in the country today, former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron stated this afternoon that her visit has no special significance. She said: President Raul Alfonsin is a friend I appreciate very much.

Talking to many reporters who were waiting for her at the main hall of the hotel where she is staying, Mrs Peron was asked about the presidential candidacy of Carlos Menem. She answered: I like any candidate that will serve the Argentine people and nation, whether he is a Peronist or not.

When a reporter asked her about possible meetings with Alfonsin or Justicialist Party President Antonio Cafiero, she stated: I can meet openly with everyone.

1989 National Elections Timetable Issued
PY2210201088 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
1150 GMT 22 Oct 88

[Text] The timetable for the 14 May 1989 national elections has been announced by Enrique Zuleta Puceiro, Interior Ministry institutional affairs secretary. He said that on that date 19 million citizens will vote for their candidates to 1,150 posts.

Zuleta held a news conference yesterday in the Hall of Shields at the Interior Ministry. He said that according to the election timetable citizens will be able to register for the elections until 15 November 1988.

The deadline for reporting to the electoral court the cases of disqualified candidate is 13 February 1989, and the deadline for distributing the provisional slates is 14 February.

Zuleta said that 28 February is the deadline for presenting objections, and 14 March for approving alliances. The national electoral boards will be established on 15 March.

The deadline for registering candidates and tickets is 25 March, while the voters lists must be printed and bound by 14 April.

By 14 April the ballots must be legally recognized and the balloting tables must be distributed. The deadline for correcting mistakes and omissions in the voting lists and for appointing voting table officials will be 24 April.

Finally, the location of the voting tables and the names of their officials must be published on 29 April.

Zuleta said that the number of posts to which the 19 million citizens will elect officials on 14 May totals 1,151 countrywide. Fifty-four electors for president, vice president, and a national senator be elected in the federal

capital, which is the only district which uses the electoral college for senatorial races. Also in the federal capital, 13 deputies will be elected by direct vote.

Zuleta said that Article 80 of the Constitution establishes that after 14 May 1989 the electors must gather in the capital and in the provincial capitals 4 months (on 10 August 1989) before the current presidential term expires to elect the president and vice president on separate ballots, which they must sign.

Government Answers Justicialist Governors

PY2510131388 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
0048 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Oct (TELAM)—The national government today energetically rejected the doubts the Justicialist governors, who met last weekend in the city of Rawson, have about the management and administration of the economic and financial resources that the laws, voted on and approved by Congress, assign to the provinces under the co-participation system.

In a communique disseminated at Government House, the Interior Ministry urges the governors who signed the Rawson Declaration to seek a style and language consistent with the climate of respect and coexistence in which the country desires to live and which will also honor the dignity of the people that they govern.

The communique notes that the governors, all members of the same political party, of several important Argentine provinces met in Rawson, Chubut Province.

The communique adds that at the end of the meeting a document, which was strictly based on party lines, was disseminated in which serious accusations are made against the federal government and in which threats are made of direct action supporting the political demands of the Justicialist Party.

The communique states that the Interior Ministry considers it to be its institutional duty to inform the public of the seriousness of this type of act. It also urges those who signed the meeting's final document to fully assume the responsibility of guaranteeing that institutions will fulfill their tasks as prescribed in the Constitution.

The document notes that the provincial governors exercise their mandate by the decision of their peoples within a republican and multiparty framework in accordance with our Constitution. It stresses that none of the governors were elected unanimously by their fellow citizens, and in many cases a majority in the provincial legislatures, the true expression of political diversity, are opposed to the governors.

The communique adds that it is not right to invoke the very high post of governor of all the people of a province and commit them to only one political banner and still expect to enter the election arena in which all opinions must be respected.

The Interior Ministry's communique states that the Rawson Declaration and the announcement of direct action pose the threat of endangering the system of power established in the Constitution.

It also indicates that all federal policies are established, assessed, and implemented with the harmonious give and take of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches, and therefore no assembly or group of people, no matter how qualified, can substitute the mechanisms of the Constitution in order to adopt any type of decision.

The communique maintains that the national government's policies, beginning with its economic policy, may not satisfy the Justicialist Party and other political organizations, but all the policies are legal and legitimate because they were implemented by the three branches of government.

Regarding this point, it stresses that the revision of these policies is made exclusively by the president, Congress, and the judicial branch.

If the Justicialist Party does not like the current policies, the document continues, it is because that party has not obtained a sufficient mandate at the national level to occupy the Presidency and a majority in Congress.

The communique states that it is illegal for a group of governors to claim a majority that the mechanisms of the Constitution have not granted them, and it deplors the fact that the governors have not taken note of this.

It stresses that the national executive branch has amply demonstrated in approximately 5 years of presidential mandate that it has an unlimited vocation for dialogue and that it has always come to the aid of the provinces when necessary within the principles of the equal distribution of the burden of rebuilding the country.

Finally, the communique considers as out of line the stance of force and the harsh language that has appeared in the last stretch of a presidential period, and it reserves the right to adopt the necessary political and institutional decisions that the evolution of events demand.

United Left Alliance Established

PY2510025588 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
2101 GMT 24 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Oct (TELAM)—The United Left Alliance [Alianza Izquierda Unida] was officially established today, with the aim of becoming the fourth

electoral force during the 1989 elections. Among other issues, the new alliance proposed the nationalization of the banking sector, land reform, and nonpayment of the foreign debt.

The new front formed by the Communist Party (PC), the Movement Toward Socialism (MAS), and other leftist groups proposed holding open elections, similar to the U.S. primary elections, to elect a candidate for the Presidency.

The main leaders of the United Left have announced that in mid-December, on a date not yet confirmed, the front will hold its internal elections, in which all registered voters may participate. This includes 16-year-old voters, who will have to register separately.

During a news conference at a hotel near the Congress building, leaders Nestor Vicente (Popular Democratic Left), Luis Zamora (MAS), Patricio Echegaray (PC), and Lisandro Viale (Intransigent) announced the establishment of the front, without ruling out the possibility of other sectors—such as the Workers Party, with whose leaders they say they are talking—joining the front.

During the news conference the leaders disclosed the United Left's program for the 1989 elections. They voiced their opposition to the privatization plan and demanded an immediate salary hike, cheap credit lines for small producers, and a completely free and sovereign constituent assembly. They came out against any coupist plans, and for the full defense and broadening of democratic civil liberties.

[Passage indistinct] before which they will separately start an electoral campaign, for the purpose of making the front grow.

3 Arrested for 9 Sep CGT Rally Incidents
PY2510031188 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Oct 88

[Text] Police have arrested three individuals involved in the incidents that occurred during the 9 September CGT [General Confederation of Labor] rally in Plaza de Mayo.

The three individuals were arrested by an investigative unit of Admiral Brown Precinct during a search in the neighborhood of Florencio Varela. The arrests were made at (Vieites) and Carlos Casares Streets. The individuals were identified as Marcelo Reyes Carrillo, Enrique Edgardo Moreno, and Gustavo Eduardo Aguirre.

According to the police report, the three individuals were arrested yesterday and immediately placed at the disposal of the courts. The report adds that the three individuals do not have jobs or known political affiliations.

Police Seize Arsenal, ERP Pamphlets in Raid
PY2110180488 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1504 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Oct (DYN)—It was officially reported today that a police raid early this morning uncovered a large arsenal along with documents that included ERP (People's Revolutionary Army) pamphlets. The police arrested four people during the raid.

The operation was carried out by a San Martin regional unit of the Buenos Aires Province police who raided a house located on 1391 Gaspar Campos Street, in Bella Vista, 25 km north of Buenos Aires.

The police operation was authorized by San Isidro Federal Judge Alberto Piotti. The individuals arrested have been identified as Inocencio Juan Felix Lopez, Carlos Alberto Cevallos, Gustavo Alberto Masacco, and Roque Florencio Juarez.

The police seized 10 pistols, 8 revolvers, 3 shotguns, and a large quantity of ammunition.

The police source also said that the agents seized "strategic and educational material on how to handle explosives" and on how to arm "booby-traps" and fire bombs. Police also found ERP pamphlets, Marxist literature, three envelopes containing cocaine, three nylon bags containing different kinds of drugs, and four brand-new cars.

The sources said they would not reveal anything else so as to not hinder the court investigation.

Bolivia

Official on Judicial Drug Case 'Irregularities'
PY2610140888 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 26 Oct 88

[Text] Social Defense Under Secretary Jorge Alderete Rosales has said that the action of a Beni court, approving a habeas corpus petition for Jorge Suarez, alias Techo de Paja, is a clear example of the irregularities being committed by the judicial branch.

Alderete Rosales said that an assistant attorney will go to Beni Department to rectify the situation.

The courts are a stumbling block in the struggle against drug trafficking. Under Secretary Alderete pointed out.

He said that during the past few hours organizations subordinate to the Interior Ministry have detained an important drug trafficker named Mario Araoz Morales.

Jorge Alderete Rosales said that Araoz Morales is being regarded as a godfather and not merely a simple drug dealer.

[Begin Alderete recording] Mario Araoz Morales, alias El Chichin, is an important drug trafficker and apparently a godfather, as these notorious individuals are called. He was detained on 17 [word indistinct]. [end recording]

Mario Araoz was caught by chance during a National Antinarcotics Force training exercise in a jungle area, the social defense under secretary said.

Alderete Rosales also announced that in December National Antinarcotics Force personnel will go to Cochabamba to burn 800 kg of cocaine in the presence of the U.S. ambassador, Mr Gelbard.

In conclusion, Alderete Rosales recalled that on 4 November the Antinarcotics Council will meet to review some aspects of the agreement signed with the U.S. Government.

Aeroflot Not To Operate From La Paz Airport
PY2510140988 La Paz La Red Panamericana
in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Excerpts] The Soviet airline company Aeroflot will not operate from La Paz international airport because its airplanes do not have the turbine power required for the altitude at which the El Alto terminal is located.

This information was supplied to Radio Panamericana yesterday afternoon by Bolivian Aeronautics Minister Jaime Zegado Hurtado, who explained some matters concerning La Paz Department to the Chamber of Deputies.

The aeronautics minister made it clear that the Bolivian and Soviet Governments have not signed any agreements concerning air transportation.

Nevertheless, the Aeroflot company is operating in Bolivia from the Viru Viru international airport in Santa Cruz. [passage omitted]

Minister Jaime Zegada reiterated that the Soviet airline company does not have any intention of operating from El Alto airport in La Paz.

Brazil

Saney Visits Portugal, Meets With Soares
LD2210043188 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese
0000 GMT 22 Oct 88

[Excerpts] President Mario Soares had a private dinner with his Brazilian counterpart Jose Saney, who arrived in Lisbon late in the afternoon from the USSR, where he was paying an official visit.

[Begin Saney recording] It is always with great emotion that we arrive in Portugal. (?Speaking in the Soviet Union about my trip to Portugal) I had the opportunity to stress that our relationship was not only one of

fraternal countries with a special relationship, but above all that we Brazilians feel Portugal is a second homeland. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Answering questions at the airport, where the curiosity of Brazilian journalists with regard to perestoyka was obvious, Sarney said:

[Begin Sarney recording] I believe perestroyka is a very important process not only from a Soviet internal point of view but also with major international repercussions. And the results are already being felt with the climate of detente being experienced in the world, especially the agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe. [end recording]

Comments on Visit

LD2410054088 Lisbon Radio Renascenca in Portuguese
to Europe 1800 GMT 23 Oct 88

[Text] President Sarney of Brazil today concludes an unofficial 3-day visit to our country. This afternoon he held a joint news conference with President Mario Soares. Our reporter (?Chico) Saldanha was there.

[Saldanha] The purpose of the news conference was to make an appraisal of a visit which, although unofficial, was described by both presidents as historic. Mario Soares summed up the topics discussed by the two statesmen:

[Begin Soares recording] We had the opportunity once again to talk at length about all matters of a bilateral nature pertaining to relations between Brazil and Portugal which, as everyone knows, are most fraternal, [word indistinct] and affectionate, but nowadays also have a very concrete substance. We also discussed internal issues such as East-West relations and world peace—since his excellency the president of Brazil—has just visited the Soviet Union, questions of disarmament, relations between the EEC and Latin America, and the problems thereof, the problems of Latin America itself, foreign debt, and so on. [end recording]

[Saldanha] but economic matters seem to have imparted a qualitative change on bilateral relations, adding a strong economic side to relations that used to be of a merely cultural nature. It became clearly patent that Brazil wishes to implement specific development programs jointly with Portugal, with regard both to Brazilian investments in Portugal and, through Lisbon, in Europe, and also to joint ventures, as President Sarney stated:

[Begin Sarney recording] Our relations, which through the years have always been of a cultural and effective nature, are now also consolidated by our economic ties. Brazil is now on the march to invest in Portugal and Portugal, for its part, is, from the economic standpoint, back on the sea routes of old, increasing cooperation with Brazil.

With a spirit of creativity, using new forms of cooperation, we hope to establish trade and economic ties capable not just of increasing the economic relations between our two fraternal countries but also of enabling us to establish joint ventures and be active together in other parts of the world—Portugal and Brazil together joining efforts to assert the presence of the Portuguese world not just in world culture but also in the world economy in the new international economic order. [end recording]

[Saldanha] This stand is unreservedly shared by the Portuguese president, who spoke of Portugal's new position—both political and economic—resulting from our membership of the EEC.

[Begin Soares recording] Portugal has become, so to speak, a focus of attraction and interest to Brazil. And the fact that the Brazilians, investors or not, are coming to Portugal, is to us extremely gratifying. [end recording]

[Saldanha] After the news conference the Brazilian president visited the Chiado district of Lisbon then left for the airport, thus concluding a visit that may signal a turning point in relations between Lisbon and Brasilia.

Chile

Pinochet: 'Not Vanquished' by Plebiscite Defeat
PY2510194588 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Report by Graciela Contreras from La Moneda Palace]

[Excerpt] The president has said that although we have been defeated in a plebiscite, we have not been vanquished. He made this remark at noon today during a ceremony commemorating the 15th anniversary of CEMA-Chile [Chilean Mothers Centers], which is headed by his wife.

The chief of state recalled that this government is known for the help that it gives to the needy without considering political banners. He stated that this may have been a mistake.

[Begin Pinochet recording] We have been defeated in a plebiscite, but not vanquished. We have been defeated, not vanquished. [shouts, applause]

You must remember that in world history a plebiscite was held, a plebiscite to judge Christ and Barrabas. And the people voted for Barrabas. [shouts, applause] [end recording]

During the applause, the chief of state greeted the volunteer women grouped within CEMA-Chile. He recalled the battle in which his government engaged against some world powers and some politicians.

[Begin Pinochet recording] I want to say that I believe in God, although He works in mysterious ways to get things done. Over the past few days, on 5 October specifically, we fought a battle against the Soviet Union, the United States, European countries, and the church. [applause] Not the church as a whole, but with some gentlemen, priests of the church. [shouts, applause] We also fought against national and foreign politicians. I can say in a sincere but true manner that Chilean politicians are human beings, with no principles at all. [applause] You must remember that in 1973, those who are now embracing and kissing each other were opposing each other. [end recording]

Moreover, the first lady of the nation has stated that a big doubt hangs over the future, and God and His Blessed Mother willing, we hope for the best for Chile. Whatever happens, it no longer matters, she has stated, because we have done our best.

During the ceremony, held to mark the 15th anniversary of CEMA-Chile's foundation, medals were awarded to volunteer members, and the Post Office issued a stamp in commemoration of this date.

Aylwin Postpones Decision on Nomination

PY2510114388 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 24 Oct 88

[Text] Christian Democratic Party [PDC] adviser Adolfo Zaldivar has said PDC President Patricio Aylwin had enough support during the recent party meeting to be nominated presidential candidate, but refused the nomination.

According to Adolfo Zaldivar, Aylwin had the support of over 70 percent of the delegates, who even signed a document asking him to accept the nomination, but Aylwin refused because he preferred to wait for the party regional and municipal elections before making a decision.

Zaldivar also opposed the nomination of Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle, but he made it clear that he has not made a final decision on the subject. Zaldivar said he did not have previous knowledge of Frei's proposals, and he needs to analyze them carefully.

Zaldivar said other possible candidates are his brother Andres and Gabriel Valdes. He added that many militants, including Eduardo Cerda, Genaro Arriagada, (Alejandro Foxli), and Eugenio Ortega, who had formerly supported Gabriel Valdes are now supporting Frei.

Adolfo Zaldivar said the political campaign within the party began on Saturday in Talagante. He said the 16-party opposition program on the political-electoral mobilization with a concrete government program will prevail in the PDC convention.

FPMR Announces 'National Patriotic War'
PY2610025488 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish
16 Oct 88 pp A-1, 12

[Text] The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) will develop a new form of struggle called the "National Patriotic War," "which will start at any moment."

This information was disclosed yesterday to EL MERCURIO by FPMR spokesman Victor Diaz Caro, who said that the truce during the plebiscite was to prepare the phase they are now starting.

He also confirmed the statement in Brussels this week by FPMR international spokesman Marcelo Reyes.

Diaz Caro, who has confessed to being one of the snipers who participated in the attack on President Augusto Pinochet, is currently under arrest in the Santiago prison, and, together with Vasily Carillo Nova, he is national spokesman for one of the factions of this extremist organization.

Diaz Caro, who was arrested in late 1986 by the police, announced that in "a matter of hours" they will start subversive actions. He explained that this new phase of armed struggle will be carried out "from Arica down to Magallanes."

At the same time he referred to the results of the plebiscite, stating that although they respect those who voted "no," "the only aspect of the victory of the 'no' we accept is that Pinochet leave power."

In referring to the FPMR's change of strategy, Diaz Caro disclosed that the decision was made during a meeting of the organization's leaders last April.

Of this occasion they discussed the line that the terrorist organization should follow. They also decided to give up the idea of an "armed rebellion," which prevailed until then. The main characteristic of that idea was that the organization served to complement class struggle (as it did in its origin in 1983), to support the people's rebellion to paralyze the country and to perpetrate attacks against the established regime.

Diaz Caro disclosed that during the meeting they decided to replace the rebellion with the search for a patriotic unity government. He said that "we realize that ousting the regime is subject to negotiations under a provincial government."

According to Diaz Caro this is when they realized the "need for a 'truce' because they needed to plan greater steps."

He added that "this is when what we call the 'national patriotic war' surfaced. The main issue of this war is the armed struggle; we are no longer a mere complement to the people. It represents a qualitative step forward and entails greater responsibilities."

Diaz Caro disclosed that this new phase will require a greater quantity of weapons, more men, and all the support necessary to operate. He said that the months of truce were used to fulfill these needs.

The spokesman added that during the meeting they also decided on the need to establish a non-isolated action. "We thought that actions in Santiago, Concepcion, and Valparaiso would be the solution, but that was not the case."

Diaz Caro explained that "this is why we now realize that the struggle should be carried out from Arica down to Magallanes, throughout the territory and in various forms."

When asked about the FPMR's opinion on the victory of the "no"—the organization was certain of a fraud and victory of the "yes" during the plebiscite—he said that it was a surprise to them, but that they still believe there had been fraud and the intention of carrying out a self-inflicted coup.

When asked whether they respected the great majority that voted "no" and sought a peaceful outcome, Diaz Caro said that they do respect those who voted for that option, "but we have assessed the situation and realize that they will have to negotiate and reach an agreement" within the framework established by the government.

He added that "the plebiscite is another step in the timetable implemented by the regime and that it continues to be a deadend road. The regime continues in its attempt to perpetuate itself in power."

He also disclosed that some meetings had been held with militants of the communist parties a few days before the plebiscite, during which they had been informed that the communist militants had been called "to arms."

Diaz Caro asserted that "to take to the streets on 6 October would have meant helping Pinochet carry out a new coup."

The spokesman added that the Armed Forces are not a monolithic force "and will not want to engage in a new war. They are soon going to start assessing the situation. We must speed up the process."

Regarding the organization's links with the Communist Party, in addition to stating that they had adopted "an accomplice silence," he stated that since June 1987 (when the FPMR split into those who support the Communist Party and the independents) they had cut all ties with that party.

"I say talks because we have never formed any alliance with them, nor the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left], nor the MAPU [United Popular Action Movement] Lautaro faction," said Diaz Caro.

The FPMR spokesman ended by acknowledging the isolation of his organization "because we have not been given the necessary space, by anyone. However, we know that we enjoy the support of many sectors..."

Carabineros Post Attacked With Rockets

PY2210140388 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish
0930 GMT 22 Oct 88

[Text] Unidentified persons attacked with two rockets [preceding word in English] a police station located near Traiguén, in the locality of Pichi-Pellahuen, 160 km northwest of Temuco.

According to the first reports, the attack took place at approximately 2200 last night, on a Carabineros guard post located in that locality.

The station was practically destroyed, with considerable property damage. Police sources have reported, however, that so far there is no report of injuries, although this has not been confirmed due to the isolation of the place. The attack was carried out during heavy rains, which has made communications with and access to the place very difficult.

There are six men deployed at this station. Carabineros are patrolling the area, trying to find the perpetrators of this subversive attack.

FPMR Link Seen

PY2210183688 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish
1600 GMT 22 Oct 88

[Excerpts] A few weeks ago in Brussels, terrorist Marcelo Reyes, international spokesman of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR], announced that the period of truce and inactivity has ended. He added that the stage of violence and armed struggle is beginning throughout the country.

We are already experiencing the first consequences of that pronouncement made in Brussels, which was ratified by terrorists here in our country. [passage omitted]

We have a report now from Temuco, regarding the terrorist attack near Traiguén.

[Begin recorded relay from Temuco by unidentified reporter]. It is now 2210 [21 October] here in Temuco. The Carabineros guard post in Pichi-Pellahuen, subordinate to the 3d police precinct in Traiguén, has been the object of an extremist attack carried out by FPMR members.

During the attack, the extremists fired two rockets at the station's facade. The commander's office and the guard's office were completely destroyed. Fortunately, the service personnel who were on duty that day did not suffer any injury.

This building belongs to the Pichi-Pellahuen neighborhood board, which voluntarily offered it for the operation of the police guard post.

To prevent pursuit, the extremists placed obstacles on the road connecting this village with the locality of Capitan Pastene. The uniformed police are carrying out the appropriate investigations to discover the terrorists' whereabouts. [end relay]

Policeman Dies in 2d Attack

PY2210183788 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish
1600 GMT 22 Oct 88

[Text] Police and military troops are carrying out intensive operations near Traiguén, and also near Los Quenes in the Curico area, trying to capture Manuel Rodriguez Front terrorists who attacked two Carabineros posts last night.

In Los Quenes, in the 7th Region, terrorists killed a police corporal and injured a civilian.

The terrorists almost completely destroyed two police stations, one located in Pichi-Pellahuen, and the other located some 38 km west of Curico, in the 7th Region.

Further on Attack

PY2210194888 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish
1600 GMT 22 Oct 88

[Text] The mountainous Curico area is being searched in an effort to locate the group of terrorists who attacked the Los Quenes Carabineros station. We now establish contact with Radio Conde from Curico to hear a special dispatch for Radio Nacional.

[Reporter] As the public knows, at about 2330 last night the Carabineros border station in Los Quenes, some 40 km from Curico, to the east, was attacked by a group of 15 terrorists, 1 of them a woman. During the attack, the building where the border detachment was headquartered was totally destroyed. This station is under the command of the Curico Prefecture, whose commander is Colonel Eugenio Palacios Salas, who is not currently in the region due to health reasons. This prefecture is temporarily under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Luis Garcia Balderrama.

During the attack by an FPMR extremist command, a jeep was destroyed by fire; and a Carabineros agent, Second Corporal Uvenal Vargas Sepulveda, 34, married with two daughters, was killed. He had worked for 10 years in the Carabineros and had 9 years of service at the

Curico Prefecture. A civilian, Fernando Enrique Garcia Figueroa, 32, a farmer and resident of the Los Quenes farm, was seriously wounded. He was taken to Santiago.

General Sergio Dicksen Cienverotti, the chief of the Third Carabineros Inspection Zone, encompassing the area between Rancagua and Linares, immediately went to Curico where he is personally conducting a search for the extremists, who, we repeat, last night attacked the Carabineros border station at Los Quenes, 40 km from Curico, toward the Andes cordillera, burning it down, and setting fire to a jeep, killing a Carabineros agent and seriously wounding a local farmer. The search patrol is now combing the cordillera region.

Attack Suspect's Son Surrenders

*PY2510021188 Santiago Domestic Service
in Spanish 2200 GMT 24 Oct 88*

[Text] The son of a Los Quenes businessman being held for alleged involvement in the attack on the Los Quenes police station surrendered to police today.

The young individual is Willy Orellana, 24, a student at Valdivia Austral University. His father, Guillermo Orellana, was arrested hours after the attack on the police post.

Police raided Orellana's house, located on 615 (Cotapo) Street, while the businessman was out and found two rifles, two shotguns, Marxist literature, and explosive materials.

The father of the student is charged with being a collaborator of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front. The FPMR has assumed responsibility for the attack and the fire that destroyed the Los Quenes police station. During the attack Carabineros agent Juvenal Vargas Sepulveda was murdered.

Shining Path Strategy Seen

*PY2410190188 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish
0930 GMT 24 Oct 88*

[Text] Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front terrorists have reportedly copied the strategy used by Peruvian Shining Path terrorists in their attack on police stations in the 7th and 9th Regions of the country.

This statement was made by Investigation Director General Fernando Paredes, who called on the people to strongly reject this type of terrorist attack.

We expect that this type of attack will be prevented by the measures implemented by the government, Paredes said, adding that an FPMR spokesman in Europe has asserted that this type of attack is part of an FPMR plan.

Asked about the two attacks on police stations, Carabineros Logistics Director General Gabriel Olmedo said that the terrorists have apparently changed their strategy and we might be confronting a new stage of terrorist activities, but the situation must be analyzed.

Bombs Explode in Downtown Santiago, Several Hurt *PY2110131188 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 21 Oct 88*

[Excerpts] Several people, including one woman, were injured by a bomb that exploded on Ahumada Boulevard.

The bomb was planted by unidentified individuals in a trash can outside the Eurocentro Shopping Center on 83 Ahumada Boulevard. [passage omitted]

Another bomb was detonated on the corner of Ahumada Boulevard and Huerfanos Street. This second, less powerful bomb did not cause greater damage or casualties.

Carabineros Director on Terrorist Attacks

*PY2510175888 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish
1600 GMT 25 Oct 88*

[Text] We are not confronting urban or rural guerrillas, but the uniformed police are on the alert for all types of attacks. This was said by the director general of the Carabineros at the Diego Portales Building after he had participated in the ceremony commemorating another (CORDAC) [not further identified] anniversary.

General Stange said that the attacks are sudden and sporadic.

[Begin Stange recording] Yesterday, last night, there was an attack against the isolated Conturmo post. Some explosive devices, incendiary devices, were thrown at the post. Carabineros personnel repelled the attack. No one was wounded.

They are surprise attacks. They are bold attacks that cause surprise, but they are not big enough to make us talk about a premeditated plan or to cause us great concern. No, they are isolated cases and we have given our answer. Those who attacked our personnel and the post are being pursued in Los Quenes sector. [end recording]

Stange said that Carabineros personnels are still in Los Quenes sector searching for the extremists.

Merino Wants Tougher Antiterrorist Measures

*PY2610020788 Santiago Radio Chilena Network
in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Oct 88*

[Excerpt] Admiral Jose Toribio Merino Castro has not ruled out the possibility of adopting tougher measures against terrorism. He said this in reference to recent attacks during which two Carabineros agents were killed.

The Navy commander said he is for the implementation of rules such as those existing in the United States and some European countries.

[Begin recording] [Merino] I am in favor of eliminating extremism anywhere, as is happening now throughout Europe. Even the communist countries are eliminating extremism.

[Reporter] What is the way to eliminate extremism?

[Merino] Well, the method is the implementation of tough laws such as those adopted by the United States, France, or the FRG.

[Reporter] Does this mean that our laws must be made tougher?

[Merino] Perhaps we must make our laws tougher. Nothing has been decided yet on this matter.

[Reporter] Is this decision to be made on the initiative of the executive branch, Admiral?

[Merino] Yes. The decision must be made by the executive branch, as the Constitution designates. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Judge in Censored No-Vote Spot Suspended
PY2510110688 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish
2200 GMT 24 Oct 88

[Text] The Supreme Court suspended Rene Garcia Villegas, head of the Santiago 20th Precinct Criminal Court, for 15 days.

Before the plebiscite, Villegas appeared in an opposition television spot that was suspended by the National Television Council.

The leaders of the Command for the No-Vote showed the video recording to the media despite its suspension. In addition, all opposition media reported what the judge said during the program.

Villegas also granted an interview to a Spanish radio station. The Supreme Court ordered that Villegas' salary be cut by 50 percent.

Six Policemen Arrested, Charged With Torture
PY2110203088 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
0358 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago, 20 Oct (TELAM-ANSA)—Six Chilean policemen have been detained on orders of a civilian judge. They have been accused of torturing a member of the self-styled Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] who is being tried by a military judge for his involvement in an attempt on General Augusto Pinochet's life.

The detained policemen have been identified as Luis Herrera, Pedro Riveros, Eugenio Maire, Eduardo Molina, Nelson Cortez, and Marco Ramirez.

The policemen are now being held in a police precinct. They have been charged with torturing Vasily Carrillo, an FPMR militant who was detained November 1986 and who was charged with organizing and delivering weapons to a commando involved in the attempt on General Augusto Pinochet's life on 7 September 1986.

Civilian Judge Dobra Lusik has ordered the detention of the policemen in response to a petition filed by Carmen Hertz, Carrillo's attorney, who said there is evidence that the policemen tortured Carrillo during his detention in a police precinct from 11 to 14 November 1986.

Appellate Court Upholds Indictment of Journalists
PY2610140088 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
0354 GMT 26 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago de Chile, 25 Oct (TELAM-EFE)—The 6th Santiago Appellate Court today upheld the indictment of the directors of two newspapers and two magazines. The prosecution of the journalists began almost 1 year ago.

The journalists are Emilio Filippi, director of LA EPOCA magazine; Ismael Llona, former director of the newspaper FORTIN MAPOCHO; and Juan Pablo Cardenas and Marcelo Contreras, directors of ANALISIS and APSI magazines, respectively.

If the four journalists are found guilty, they may be fined from \$4,000 to \$15,000. The crime, however, does not call for jail sentences.

Thirty-six other journalists are being prosecuted by the military courts, most of them on charges of offending the Armed Forces.

Central Bank Releases Foreign Debt Figures
PY2510180988 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish
19 Oct 88 p B-1

[Summary] The Central Bank on 18 October reported that in August 1988, the Chilean foreign debt stood at \$17.858 billion, which is the lowest level for the past 4 years. The report says that in that month the medium and long term debts totaled \$15.757 billion, and that the short-term debt totaled \$2.101 billion. The Central Bank also reported that in August 1988, the public sector foreign debt totaled \$15.041 million.

Foreign Trade 30 Percent Higher Than 1987 Level
PY2510181188 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish
21 Oct 88 p B-1

[Summary] The Chilean Central Bank on 20 October reported that foreign trade increased 30.6 percent in the first 7 months of 1988 compared with the same period in 1987.

1988 Oil Production Figures Reported
PY2510182188 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish
15 Oct 88 p C-9

[Summary] The National Petroleum Enterprise has reported that oil production in Magallanes reached 1,059,224 cubic meters, that is, 6,670,000 barrels during the first 9 months of 1988. Sixty-six percent of this came from wells located in the Magallanes Strait and 34 percent from those on the mainland.

Colombia

Barco on Hurricane, Strike, Group of 8 Summit
PA2610043888 Bogota Inravisión Television Cadena 1
in Spanish 0244 GMT 26 Oct 88

[Address to the nation by President Virgilio Barco; place not given—live]

[Excerpts] My fellow countrymen: This evening, I want to explain the importance of the trip I will begin tomorrow to take part in the second meeting of the Group of Eight presidents in Punta del Este, Uruguay. In addition to Colombia, the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela will be present at this meeting. The decision to hold this meeting was made a year ago at the conclusion of our first meeting. But first, I want to refer briefly to Hurricane Joan's sweep through Colombia and to the strike planned for Thursday.

I would like to highlight the success by civilian and military authorities in reducing to a minimum the effects of Hurricane Joan as it swept through the San Andres and Providencia Islands and also affected Colombia's Atlantic coast. Fortunately, this hurricane and the accompanying tidal waves did not have the devastating results they could have had under different circumstances. The efforts of the Presidential Office for Emergency Relief contributed significantly to these results. The public at large made an important contribution to its own safety by following the authorities' recommendations. This is yet another example of how, with everyone's support, we can overcome dangerous situations.

As you know, the labor federations have ordered their members to strike on Thursday. Despite the government's efforts, offers, and willingness to talk, labor union leaders have not changed this order. I have been a defender of the interests of the poor and of democratic values. That is why I can simply say that, under the

present circumstances, there is no justification whatsoever for a labor protest. Relations between workers and management are cordial and constructive. Our economic situation has been one of the best during the past few years. The unemployment rate is only 10 percent, the lowest in the entire decade. Since the beginning of this administration, we have enjoyed this positive economic situation. [passage omitted]

The strike also will not benefit the millions of Colombian workers. Broad segments of the people, including the working class, have thoroughly rejected that strike.

The country considers the strike inopportune and unjustified. There are no valid reasons for this strike; its instigators only hope to destabilize the country. The people know terrorist groups have planned violent actions to take advantage of the climate of instability that is being created.

The people and the government today condemned the cowardice and greed of the guerrilla group that carried out an ambush in Peque municipality, northeastern Antioquia Department. This terrorist attack was aimed at a bus full of civilians and members of the Armed Forces. Eight policemen and a captain were killed, five policemen were wounded, and one is missing. The number of civilians killed in this repugnant massacre is not yet known.

Is it by shedding blood that the guerrilla groups want to achieve peace? Is it by killing defenseless people who are working for their children that these groups claim to contribute to the progress of Colombia? The Colombian people are tired of violence. Very few Colombians any longer believe in the good intentions of the guerrilla groups. The guerrillas themselves, with their senselessness and cruelty, have made a firm hand more effective than a dialogue.

Undoubtedly this terrorist act makes the strike announced by the labor groups even more inappropriate. The Peque massacre is an example of how the extremist groups can take advantage of a strike to create a climate of distress and anguish, thereby attempting to destabilize Colombian institutions. [passage omitted]

The government will act firmly to guarantee public order and to ensure that the majority of Colombians will be able to go to their workplaces as usual. I am certain that the violent groups, the agitators of this destabilizing action, will not be able to overcome the overwhelming rejection of the majority of the Colombian people, who have shown proof of their confidence in democracy.

We have demonstrated our institutional strength on prior occasions. This is another test that I am certain the country will pass with the people's cooperation. I have

instructed that public order must be maintained. The security forces have taken the proper preventive measures, and I will be constantly in contact with the country.

The Group of Eight meeting that is to begin tomorrow in Uruguay has great importance for Colombia. Many of the problems against which Colombia is struggling are common to several countries and our joint efforts are required to eradicate them.

The Group of Eight has increasingly gained more importance in the hemisphere and in other international circles. It has become our representative before countries and groups of countries that did not in the past take most of the Latin American countries into consideration. That situation has changed considerably. Members of the Group of Eight assumed an important role in efforts to win peace in Central America, and through this forum we were able to state our opinions to the international community on important issues such as the foreign debt, the fight against drug trafficking, poverty, and our rejection of any sort of foreign intervention in our countries' internal and foreign affairs. Our countries' opinions at international forums used to be ignored because we lacked unity. The situation today has changed for the better. Without any doubt, the Group of Eight's position today is heard and is influential. [passage omitted]

The Group of Eight contributes to our attaining the economic, political, and social changes that will benefit all Colombians and will allow us to defend our democracy. The Punta del Este meeting will give us the opportunity to advance in building Latin American unity to confront the big challenges awaiting us. The upcoming Group of Eight meeting will strengthen Colombia's position and interests. Good night and so long.

Further on Guerrillas' Response to Barco
PA2510134788 Paris AFP in Spanish 1101 GMT
25 Oct 88

[By Gabriel Paez]

[Text] Bogota, 25 Oct (AFP)—The active guerrilla groups in Colombia have responded to President Virgilio Barco's peace plan in a message proposing their high command meet with three ministers to prepare the way for the negotiations.

This was reported by Caracol Radio Network, which aired the text of the proposal by the Simon Bolivar Guerrilla Coordinating Board (CNG-SB) addressed to Barco, through Msgr Dario Castrillon, president of the Latin American Episcopal Conference (CELAM) and coordinator of the so-called Democratic Coexistence Commission.

"We are sure an affirmative response from the government will clear Colombia's future," the commanders of the six extremist organizations stated in the final part of the message signed by them.

Barco, in a 1 September radio-television speech, presented a 2-year plan offering total guarantees for the guerrillas to disarm and rejoin civilian life.

Castrillon and other officials of the Coexistence Commission said the CNG-SB would respond to the president's proposal soon. However, contrary to expectations, there has been an increase of subversion with rebel ambushes and attacks on the police, leaving many casualties on both sides.

For instance, 35 guerrillas and 5 troops were killed yesterday during fighting in diverse parts of the country.

Caracol, noting the message will be officially released today, said it was delivered early yesterday to the prelate, who sent it in the afternoon to Barco, who began to study it with his advisers.

It also mentioned that sources close to the government believe that although the message is not a formal response by the guerrillas, it raises hope for a peaceful dialogue.

The guerrillas recognized the government plan has unleashed a public opinion debate, showing that the fundamental discussion in the country is "war or peace."

They said, however, that "this initiative was undermined by a lack of national participation, an appropriate attitude for negotiation, and true alternatives for social, political, and economic problems."

They said the country wants "a return to public liberties, an end of the dirty war, and a dignified society based on genuine conditions of life, work, welfare, and sovereignty." They added that several groups have made proposals and offered solutions in keeping with the country's reality.

Consequently, the CNG-SB proposes:

"1. A meeting between the government and the top guerrilla leaders to discuss a political solution regarding life, democracy, and national sovereignty.

"2. High-level talks between the ministers of government (interior), defense, and mines, and the commanders of the forces composing the CNG-SB.

"3. The attendance of the Democratic Coexistence Commission as witness to the talks."

The message is signed by the top Colombian guerrilla leaders: Manuel Perez of the Army of National Liberation (pro-Cuban ELN); Francisco Caraballo, of the Popular Liberation Army (pro-Maoist EPL); Carlos Pizarro

of the M-19 (extreme left nationalist); Manuel Marulanda Velez (Tirofijo) of the communist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (pro-Soviet FARC); Gildardo Fernandez of the indigenous Quintin Lame Movement; and Valentin Gonzalez of the Revolutionary Workers Party (PRT) National Directorate.

ELN Hijacks Copter, Drops Leaflets on Medellin
PA2510222788 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish
21 Oct 88 p 11-C

[Excerpt] In an unusual action, guerrillas of the Colombian Army of National Liberation [ELN] have hijacked a Helicol [National Helicopters of Colombia] helicopter and dropped rebel leaflets on Medellin.

The action took place at about 1815 [no date as published] when a helicopter flying from Rionegro Airport to Olaya Herrera Airport was hijacked by three people, who forced the pilot to overfly northeastern, central, and northern Medellin.

The alleged rebels dropped leaflets from the helicopter inviting people to listen to the clandestine radio station "Free Fatherland, voice of the new Colombia, on the 49-meter band everyday at 1930."

The individuals apparently boarded the helicopter at Olaya Herrera Airport and in the middle of the flight threatened the pilot. A few minutes later, the helicopter landed at the same airport and the alleged guerrillas escaped and headed toward nearby pastures. [passage omitted]

9 Policemen, 9 Civilians Die in Antioquia Ambush
PA2610011588 Bogota Inravisión Television Cadena 1
in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Oct 88

[Text] In another act of violence, 18 people were killed near Canasgordas in Antioquia Department. EPL [Popular Liberation Army] guerrillas blew up a bridge as a public bus, in which several policemen were traveling, was crossing it. The attack killed nine policemen and nine civilians, including four employees of the Civil Registry Office, who had been in Peque on Sunday for the election of a new mayor. The bloody attack occurred in Juntas de Uramita, where the injured are being treated.

40 Soldiers, Police Killed Between 1-13 Oct
PA2510181488 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish
21 Oct 88 p 3-A

[Summary] According to Colombian statistics, 40 Colombian soldiers and policemen were killed by guerrillas in the first 13 days of October.

Statistics also show that between 1986 and 1988, there was an 181-percent increase in the number of soldiers and policemen killed.

Kidnap Victims' Bodies Found; Drug War Suspected
PA2310065088 Bogota Inravisión Television Cadena 1
in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Oct 88

[Text] The bodies of six people who were kidnapped last night in the Miravalle neighborhood in western Medellin were found today in Guarne municipality. Hector Herrera, Miriam de Herrera, Adriana Herrera, Oscar Gilberto Toro, and Sandra Quiros [five names as heard] were apparently tortured and strangled to death with electric cords. The police suspect that this incident was the result of a war being waged between the Cali and Medellin drug cartels, which has claimed the lives of 18 people in the past 2 days.

Ecuador

Quito Supreme Court President Shot to Death
PA2510144288 Paris AFP in Spanish 1405 GMT
25 Oct 88

[Text] Quito, 25 Oct (AFP)—Quito Supreme Court President Ivan Martinez Vela was shot last night and died almost instantly, a Supreme Court spokesman said today.

The official was shot on the street at around 2000 (0100 GMT today) as he was leaving a bakery and was heading home.

Martinez was shot three times and died almost instantly.

Supreme Court officials have arranged for the body to lie in state so people can pay last respects to the victim.

No group or person has claimed responsibility for the attack and the police made no comments regarding the investigations.

Relative Blames Traffickers
PA2510203688 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1933 GMT
25 Oct 88

[Text] Quito, 25 Oct (EFE)—Edgar Martinez, a brother of Ivan Martinez Vela, the Quito Superior Court president murdered last night by unidentified individuals in this city, today blamed drug traffickers for the murder of the judge.

The relative of the murdered judge said his brother was investigating some drug trafficking cases, although this has not been confirmed by the Superior Court of Justice.

The judge was shot twice in the head while he was in his car after leaving a shopping mall in northern Quito.

Jorge Alarcon, the Quito civil commissioner, told EFE that early this morning the police arrested two suspects, whose identities he did not disclose. It has been reported, however, that the people who committed the crime are involved in drug trafficking.

The murder, an unprecedented case in Ecuador, has upset the country and the authorities have strongly condemned the murder.

The presidents of the Supreme Court of Justice, Ramiro Larrea; Congress, Wilfrido Lucero; the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, Francisco Ramon; and the court [not further identified] said the attack is only the beginning of an escalation of violence, similar to the violence affecting other nations in the region.

Commissioner Alarcon ordered the Criminal Intelligence Service (SIC) to carry out a "thorough investigation," while radio reports from the interior of the country announce the Armed Forces and the police are conducting joint operations on highways, as well as in airports and land terminals, to find the criminals.

Government Minister Comments

PA2610133388 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish
2300 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Interview with Government and Justice Minister Andres Vallejo by Edwin Chamorro; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Vallejo] In the name of the national government, I want to deplore the murder of the Supreme Court president. I reject this sort of action, whatever causes it. Right now, an in-depth investigation is under way. All police units are working to try to solve this crime, which is much more than the death of a distinguished professional who was directly involved with administering justice. The administration of justice has all of the government's backing, taking into account the independence that must exist, to investigate this crime that occurred last night, which we all regret and reject.

[Chamorro] Mr Minister, what have the preliminary investigations uncovered?

[Vallejo] Nothing yet. I believe we cannot make guesses. The police and appropriate agencies are investigating and analyzing every possibility and alternative. I believe it is not possible at this moment to discuss any definite clues because these investigations have barely started. I do not believe you can guess about the motives anyone could have for this attack.

[Chamorro] Do the Supreme Court of Justice magistrates need better security?

[Vallejo] Fortunately for the country, I believe this is an isolated case—a very serious one, of course. I do not think one can generalize that this violent attack—I hope this is not the case—has anything to do with administering justice. Of course the magistrates will receive all the protection they need—both in public and in private.

Paraguay

Foreign Minister Comments on Trip to U.S.

PY2510140888 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish
24 Oct 88 p 12

[Text] Foreign Minister Rodney Elpidio Acevedo has termed his activities in the United States as "arduous" and "satisfactory," especially the meetings he had with high-ranking State Department officials. The foreign minister has returned to our country after an absence of several weeks.

The minister told the press that "our rounds of talks with State Department authorities were satisfactory because they were sufficiently extensive for us to detail matters pertaining to Paraguay, bilateral relations, and every interesting matter within this framework."

He stated that these links "are currently very good," and he spoke frankly. "I had the occasion to clarify matters that were not being adequately evaluated. This was the positive aspect," he said. Acevedo also highlighted the diversity and the length of time he spoke with Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, and with other U.S. Government officials.

Before arriving in Washington, Acevedo visited the Republic of China, where he represented the government in that country's anniversary celebrations. He then visited New York to participate in the UN General Assembly debates as head of the government's official delegation.

Christian Democratic Convention Suspended Again

PY2410180988 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish
23 Oct 88 p 8

[Text] Christian Democratic Party [PDC] authorities yesterday decided to again suspend its general convention, which was scheduled to be held today, because the Interior Ministry has again refused to authorize the event. This was reported by PDC Leader Jose Maria Bonnin, who said that a way to hold the PDC convention is being sought.

Bonnin said: "We again have suspended the party convention because we were informed that it cannot be held. It is difficult to hold a clandestine meeting with 200 or more people. We believe that this would be very dangerous because we are responsible for the personal safety of these people, particularly now that the regime has launched a repressive campaign."

He said: "We want to do everything within the law and in keeping with our rights. We will continue to insist on this. We know that we will come up with a system that will allow us to hold our convention. We will find a way to elect new party officials."

Bonnin also said: "We are not surprised by the measures implemented by this so-called democratic government. We believe this decision undermines even further the regime's image abroad."

Speaking about the next steps, Bonnin said that they would hold meeting to discuss future activities. About the meeting he said there is no hurry because "the party convention will not be held and this means we have time to discuss the situation."

He added: "We believe the people will express their opinion at the meeting. We will see what happens, how we handle the situation. It is obvious that we will be unable to hold our convention this year."

Luis Manuel Andrada Nogues, who is running for the PDC presidency, regretted the situation and added: "This leads us to believe that the regime will not allow the so-called illegal parties to carry out any public acts."

He said: "Nevertheless, we believe that if the proper authorization is not issued, the convention cannot be held."

Christian Democratic Movement Leader Detained
PY2410141088 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish
23 Oct 88 p 8

[Text] Yesterday Dr Luis Manuel Andrada, who is a leader of the "Truth, Honesty, and Social Commitment" [Verdad, Honestidad, y Compromiso Social] movement of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], was arrested by policemen while participating in a meeting at Jose Burro's house in Villa Morra neighborhood. This information was released to EL DIARIO by Dr Francisco Carvallo, a Truth, Honesty, and Social Commitment movement member.

Carvallo said that approximately 11 policemen arrived at Burro's home and ordered the people attending the meeting to vacate the house, or they would take action.

The members of the movement were about to attend a PDC meeting at the seminary. However, the meeting did not take place because police cordoned off the location.

Carvallo reported that a writ of habeas corpus on behalf of Andrada Nogues was telegraphed to the president of the Supreme Court.

The telegram states: "We request a writ of habeas corpus on behalf of Luis Manuel Andrada Nogues, who was arrested by police at 1400 on 23 October. He was taken to the 1st Police Precinct without a court order. We demand his immediate release because he has not committed a crime." The telegram is signed by J. Caceres Carisimo and Francisco Carvallo Mutz.

Andrada Nogues Released

PY2410212488 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish
24 Oct 88 p 10

[Excerpt] "I cannot understand the reasons for my arrest. I was visiting Jose Burro at his home and meeting with convention representatives when the party president called me to an urgent meeting at his home. The call came through at approximately 1330 on Saturday, 22 October. When my meeting with the president ended I returned to Burro's house and found a police officer and a group of civilians waiting for me. They asked me to come with them and I complied. They did not show me any court order." Luis Manuel Andrada Nogues said after being released from jail this morning. Andrada Nogues is a candidate for president of the Christian Democratic Party. He was arrested on 22 October.

"First I was taken to the 1st Police Precinct, and then around 1500 to the Central Police Headquarters, where they opened a police record on me. From there I was taken to the Security Police Detention Center, where I was detained until 0800 this morning," Andrada Nogues said. [passage omitted]

JLRA Reports on Detention of Youth Leader
PY2510141788 Asuncion HOY in Spanish
25 Oct 88 p 9

[Text] The national board of the Authentic Radical Liberal Youth (JLRA) has reported on the "illegal and illegitimate" detention of San Juan de Neembucu JLRA leader Dario Tarrascas. Tarrascas was detained by police of the Neembucu government delegate's office on 23 October.

Tarrascas "was reportedly detained for having taken part in a political act staged on 2 October," a JLRA communique reports. The JLRA repudiates the detention and demands Tarrascas' immediate release.

Peru

2 Polls: 3 Out of 4 'Reject' President Garcia
PY2510152988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0017 GMT
25 Oct 88

[Text] Lima, 24 Oct (EFE)—According to two public opinion polls, the Peruvian people have massively targeted President Alan Garcia with their fury.

The polls indicate that three out of every four Peruvians reject the president, while two out of every three personally blame Garcia, his government, and his advisers or party for the economic crisis that the country is experiencing. This crisis is believed to be the worst in this century.

Garcia began his tenure in 1985 with a popularity rating of 96 percent. He maintained this popularity at very high levels during the first 2 years of his government, the period in which his economic policy was triumphant.

The people have now targeted the president with their frustration at a time when the recession and economic collapse has hit Peru, with prices climbing three times more than salaries, thus drastically curtailing the popular consumer capability that existed in the first stage of Garcia's government.

A national poll carried out by the Independent Support Institute indicates that Garcia is viewed unfavorably by 74 percent of the population while 16 percent approve of his actions.

The Datum Enterprise, an independent firm, carried out a similar poll in the area of the Lima, where one-third of the country's population, approximately 21 million inhabitants, is concentrated.

According to this second poll, Garcia is rejected by 82.5 percent of the population and is only supported by 13.5 percent.

Datum's poll indicates that 85 percent of the people who were polled believe that Peru's economic situation has deteriorated in the past 6 months, and that 64 percent expressed pessimism regarding the immediate future.

While the government blames the crisis on the "unjust" international economic system and on the excessive internal use of foreign exchange, its political adversaries attribute the delicate internal situation to the "deficient" management of the Peruvian economy.

The president recently reiterated his decision to maintain the "nationalist" economic model and to limit foreign debt payments, which amount to approximately \$16 billion, to stimulate internal growth.

A large portion of the public blames the crisis on government officials, but, and this is also the belief of rightist and leftist political parties, the public believes that Garcia should complete his 5-year presidential term in 1990 (66 percent), and that pluralist democracy is the best system (72 percent).

This position indicates a massive popular rejection of the rumors of a coup and the resignation of the president that 2 weeks ago rocked Peru's fragile democracy, which was restored in 1980 after 12 years of military governments.

Although a majority have confidence in freedom, Datum's poll indicates a considerable disenchantment with the democratic system, because 21 percent prefer authoritarianism.

Seventeen percent favor a military regime and approximately 4 percent prefer a revolutionary socialist government.

The popular fury against Garcia is also extended to his party, the APRA, which has had its election expectations reduced to 25 percent from the 43 percent that it received in the 1985 elections.

A poll on current voting trends indicates that the United Left (IU), a coalition of seven socialist and communist parties that is the main opposition force in Peru, shares the peoples' confidence along with the Democratic Front (Fredemo), the new rightist organization that is headed by writer Mario Vargas Llosa.

Twenty months from the elections scheduled for 1990, the polls give Alfonso Barrantes, a possible leftist presidential candidate, 29 percent of the vote, and Vargas Llosa 26 percent, while the Garcia's APRA only gets 11 percent. Twenty-one percent of those polled were undecided.

Minister on Garcia Group of 8 Meeting Proposals
PY2510120388 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish
0100 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Luiz Gonzalez Posada has said that everything is ready for President Alan Garcia's trip on Wednesday to the second Group of Eight meeting, to be held in Punta del Este, Uruguay.

[Begin recording] [Gonzalez] The president will leave on Wednesday to attend the second Group of Eight presidential summit in Punta del Este.

[Reporter] What proposals will the president will put forward?

[Gonzalez] The president has given clear definitions of some essential issues. In the first place, we must make a major effort to achieve Latin American integration, an area in which instead of progress there has been retrogression in the past few years. The president also said that it is vital to begin a dialogue between the Group of Eight, the Latin American countries, and the developed countries of the North, and with the United States. The United States is part of our continent; between 20 to 30 million Latins reside there. We have common regional problems that must be analyzed and discussed on an equal footing and with respect for our sovereignty. This sort of dialogue among deaf people—in which we do not understand each other and as a result of which many major issues have gone unheeded—should not continue.
[end recording]

MRTA Releases Former Air Force General
PY2410150088 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0321 GMT
24 Oct 88

[Text] Lima, 23 Oct (EFE)—This evening Peruvian General Hector Jeri, retired, who was abducted by the MRTA 108 days ago, was released safe and sound, 6 days after his family complied with several demands made by the kidnappers.

This evening Jeri, a retired Air Force general, appeared on the television program "In Person," which is run by Peruvian journalist Cesar Hildbrandt and is broadcast over channel 4. Jeri said that "like any other human being would," he feared the possibility of being killed by his abductors.

Jeri was abducted on 7 July at the door of a battery manufacturing company located in Lima, of which he is the main stockholder, by eight MRTA members. This has been the longest political abduction ever in Peru.

During the television program the retired general said that he had not yet seen his relatives, who went to the channel facilities to pick him up. Media sources said that Jeri cried when he met with his relatives.

Jeri said he did not know the ransom paid by his family, adding that the only information he had was that of the Lima press, which said that the MRTA demanded \$3 million.

He added that during his imprisonment he remained in good spirits and that he compared his situation to that of Spanish industrialist Jose Antonio Onrubia, who 4 years ago was the victim of a 10-month abduction, the longest one ever perpetrated by common criminals.

Jeri said that the recollections of his family gave him strength not to lose hope, even though on 12 October he was almost killed by one of his abductors, the one in charge of murdering him, known by the name of "Raul."

As part of the ransom, the retired general's family on 17 October distributed 7,000 bags of food to 7 Lima neighborhoods at a cost of approximately \$30,000.

The MRTA, which began its violent actions in 1984, also demanded cash and propaganda before releasing the prisoner, who, the MRTA said, would be delivered to his relatives upon compliance with their demands.

Jeri was held in a "people's jail" somewhere in Lima.

4 Alleged Rebels Killed; Police Posts Destroyed
PY2510135888 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0456 GMT
25 Oct 88

[Text] Lima, 24 Oct (EFE)—Today it was reported in Lima that four alleged members of the Shining Path terrorist group were killed and another one injured during a clash with a police patrol in Junin Department, in the central Peruvian Andean region.

The incident occurred on 22 October, close to the Negro Bueno Mine, near the city of Huancayo, 315 km east of Lima, the state-owned ANDINA press agency has reported. According to ANDINA, the news was received from the Mines and Energy Ministry communications office.

The source has reported that the Shining Path column comprised nine members. Negro Bueno Mine workers first saw the column when it was approaching the Tingo settlement. The workers immediately informed the Civil Guard, and a patrol was sent to capture them.

Press sources reported today in Lima that four police posts on the jungle marginal road, in the Peruvian northeastern region, have been destroyed by alleged members of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement. The attackers dynamited the Civil Guard posts in San Martin Department in the last 48 hours. No casualties have been reported.

Senator Enrique Bernales today reported that a Senate committee will be formed to draft a national peace accord, which will be signed by representatives of all national sectors. The goal of this accord is to put an end to the wave of violence which, in the last 8 years, has already caused the death of 12,000 people in the country.

Bernales, who is the head of the Senate committee in charge of investigating the causes of this violence and a member of the United Left—a coalition of Marxist parties that leads the Peruvian opposition—has reported that he will ask the help of the Peruvian Primate Cardinal Juan Landazuri in order to urge all Peruvians to engage in this campaign for the pacification of the country.

Uruguay

Congress Fails To Approve UNITAS Participation
PY2510190288 Montevideo LA HORA in Spanish
21 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] For the first time in 28 years Uruguay will not take part in the "UNITAS" maneuvers with U.S. Naval forces in Uruguayan territorial waters. Congress has failed to meet the constitutional deadline for approval of Uruguayan participation in these maneuvers.

On 20 October Congress should have approved Uruguay's participation in these maneuvers, but since the Chamber of Deputies failed to put this matter up for vote, Uruguay will not join the maneuvers this time.

1988 Trade Surplus Exceeds \$200 Million

PY2210145388 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0435 GMT
22 Oct 88

[Summary] Montevideo, 21 Oct (EFE)—According to a report published here today, the Uruguayan trade balance surplus reached \$205.5 million on 30 September. This means the trade surplus has increased 698.7 percent in comparison to that of the same period last year.

Suriname

National Party To Remain in Government Coalition

FL2510120088 Bonaire Trans World Radio
in English 1130 GMT 25 Oct 88

[Text] The National Party of Suriname, one of three members of the coalition government, will not step down. The party had been expected to leave the coalition. It opposed the decision made by President Ramsewak Shankar not to dismiss the director of Suriname Airlines over its alleged involvement in smuggling foreign currency into the country. The party says it will stay in the coalition to protect the national interest.

